

THE ILLUSTRATED
SPORTING & DRAMATIC

NEWS

No. 161.—VOL. VI.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1877.

[REGISTERED FOR
TRANSMISSION ABROAD.]

PRICE SIXPENCE.
By Post 6½d.



MISS JULIA GAYLORD, OF THE CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.

RAILWAYS.

HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE AND GRAND MILITARY STEEPLECHASES

AT SANDOWN PARK, Esher,
FRIDAY, 9th MARCH, and SATURDAY, 10th MARCH.

SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

FREQUENT TRAINS will run on both the above days from WATERLOO, Vauxhall, to Esher, from 11.0 a.m. till 1.0 p.m., returning from Esher after the Races.

Trains from Hammersmith, Kensington, West Brompton, and Chelsea connecting at Clapham Junction with the special trains.

Tickets may be procured at the West End Office, 30, Regent-street; Piccadilly-circus; Messrs. Pratt and Barbrook, 28, Conduit street, W.; Golden Cross, Charing-cross; Exeter Buildings, Arbury-street West, E.C.; and at the Waterloo Bridge, Vauxhall, Clapham Junction, and Kensington (Addison-road) Stations.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.

GRAND NATIONAL AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE STEEPLECHASES (near Cambridge).

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 13th and 14th MARCH, 1877.
On each of above dates a SPECIAL EXCURSION TRAIN will leave LONDON (Liverpool-street) for CAMBRIDGE and WATERBEACH at 10.0 a.m.

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S. SWARBRICK, General Manager.

London, February, 1877.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

LINCOLN SPRING RACES.

A Special Express Train, conveying 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class Passengers at Ordinary Fares, will be run to Lincoln as under:

On Monday, 19th March.	On Tuesday and Wednesday, 20th and 21st March.
A.M.	A.M.
Leave King's Cross.....	8.40
" Finsbury Park.....	8.47
" Peterborough.....	10.22
" Grantham.....	10.40
Arrive at Lincoln.....	11.30
	12.25

Also on WEDNESDAY, 21st March, a Special Express Train, conveying 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class Passengers, will leave Lincoln for London, Grantham, and Peterborough as under:—Lincoln, dep. 6.10 p.m., Grantham, arr. 6.50; Peterborough, arr. 6.30; London (King's Cross) arr. 9.20. Return tickets will be available by these trains.

HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager.

London, King's Cross Station, March, 1877.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE STEEPLECHASES AND GRAND NATIONAL HUNT MEETING, AT COTTONHAM.

DAY TRIP TO CAMBRIDGE.

On TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 and 14, a CHEAP EXCURSION, at Excursion Fares, for CAMBRIDGE, will leave London Victoria (L.C. and D.) Station at 8.26 a.m.; Moorgate-street, 9.0; Aldersgate-street, 9.11; Farringdon-street, 9.13; KING'S CROSS (G.N.) 9.30; Holloway, 9.35; and Finsbury Park, 9.38. Returning from Cambridge each day only at 6.45 p.m.

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HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager.

King's Cross Station, February, 1877.

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BARBARY.....	Saturday, Mar. 24.....	Saturday, March 31.
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April 25, 1876.

HARRINGTON E. O'REILLY.

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, Regent's-park, are open daily (except Sunday). Admission is., on Monday 6d., children always 6d. The Collection of Hunting Trophies and Zoological specimens made during the Indian tour of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Amongst the most recent additions is a large Anaconda.

THEATRES.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, F. B. Chatterton.—Every Evening, at 8 o'clock, an Original Romantic Drama entitled HASKA, Mr. Creswick, Miss Leighton. Messrs. H. Russell, F. Tyars, G. Weston, P. Bell, R. Dolman, C. Fenton, J. Johnstone, Douglas, Evans, &c. Misses C. Nott, C. Jecks, &c. Preceded by TEN OF 'EM, to conclude with the DATE TREE GROVE.

ROYAL ADELPHI THEATRE.

THIS EVENING, at 7, Pantomime, LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES, performed entirely by children. At 9, SHAUGHRAUN, Messrs. C. Sullivan, S. Barry, W. Terriss, F. Tyars, J. G. Shore, H. Vaughan, Mesdames Rose Coghlan, Hudspeth, Taylor, C. Nott, Everard, &c.

LOST IN LONDON. EVERY EVENING.

—Characters by Mr. S. Emery, Mr. H. Jackson, Mr. Revelle, Mr. C. J. Smith, Mr. G. Weston, Mr. H. Evans, Mr. E. Travers, Miss Rose Coghlan, Miss F. Leslie, Mrs. Alfred Mellon, &c. Box-office open from 10 till 5 daily.—ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. B. Buckstone.

LAST NIGHTS OF PYGMALION AND GALATEA.

Every Evening, at 7.30, Rae's Comedy, FOLLOW THE LEADER. Miss Annie Lafontaine, Miss Irwin, Mr. Herbert, &c. After which at 8.30, Mr. W. S. Gilbert's Mythological Comedy PYGMALION AND GALATEA. Cynisca, Miss H. Hodson; Galatea, Miss M. Terry; Myrene, Miss M. Harris; Daphne, Miss Chippendale; Pygmalion, Mr. C. Harcourt; Chrysos, Mr. Buckstone; and Leucippe, Mr. Howe. Concluding with BIRDS IN THEIR LITTLE NESTS AGREE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—SHAKSPEARE'S KING RICHARD III.

MR. HENRY IRVING as DUKE OF GLOSTER. MISS BATEMAN as QUEEN MARGARET.

Every Evening till further notice, at 7.45, KING RICHARD III. Richard Duke of Gloucester, Mr. Henry Irving; Queen Margaret, Miss Bateman; Lady Anne, Miss Isabel Bateman. Scenery by Hawes Craven; Music by R. Stoepel. Preceded at 7.0 by THE LOTTERY TICKET.

ROYAL ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, MRS. JOHN WOOD.—THE DANISCHEFFS. Unanimously pronounced by the Press and Public the great Success of the Season. On Monday, and every evening during the week, at 8.15, will be presented in Four Acts, THE DANISCHEFFS—Characters by Mr. Hermann Vezin, Mr. John Clayton, Mr. C. Warner, Mr. C. Cooper, Mr. W. H. Macklin, Mr. Sandford, Mr. A. Parry, Mr. Darrell, Mr. Barry, Mr. Winstanley, &c.; Miss Lydia Foote, Miss Fanny Addison, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Edith Challis, Miss Lavis, Miss Wilmore, and Mrs. John Wood. Preceded at 7.30, a LAUGHABLE FARCE. Box office open daily from 10 till 5. Doors open at 7.

FOLLY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager,

MR. ALEX. HENDERSON.

LAST 12 NIGHTS OF ROBINSON CRUSOE.

LAST 12 NIGHTS OF MISS THOMPSON in comedy.

LAST 12 NIGHTS OF THE SEASON.

Monday and every Evening at 7.30, PERPETUAL MOTION. At 8.9, NINE POINTS OF THE LAW. Mrs. Smylie, Miss Lydia Thompson. At 9.20, ROBINSON CRUSOE.

NOTICE.—This Theatre will remain closed during Passion Week, for the purpose of making some necessary alterations, the new season re-opening on Saturday, 31st March, with a grand Easter burlesque, entitled OXYGEN; OR, LAUGHING GAS IN A NEW METRE, by Messrs. R. Reece and H. B. Farrie. Costumes designed by Draner, of Paris. Scenery by Messrs. Grieve and Son.

FOLLY MATINEE, Saturday, 17th March, NINE POINTS OF THE LAW, Miss Lydia Thompson and entire Company; and CONTEMPT OF COURT, a romantic Cantata, by Arthur Matthison and Edward Solomon.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Scanlan.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALEX. HENDERSON.

Last Three Nights of ON BAIL, owing to the revival, for a few nights, of THE GREAT DIVORCE CASE, and the production of a new Cantata.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, for the last time, at 8.45, ON BAIL, Charles Wyndham and entire Company; preceded at 7.30, by DOROTHY'S STRATAGEM. Thursday, 15th March, revival, by desire, for two nights only, of THE GREAT DIVORCE CASE, by the Original Company, and the production, for the first time, of a romantic Cantata, CONTEMPT OF COURT, by Arthur Matthison and Edward Solomon.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. J. Hitchins.

GLOBE THEATRE.—EVERY EVENING, At 8.15 terminating at 10.45, a new drama,

"CORA," by W. G. Wills and Frank Marshall (the main incidents taken from Adolphe Belot's "L'Article 47"), in which

MRS. HERMANN VEZIN will appear, prior to her departure for Australia and America. Characters by Messrs. James Fernandez, Edmund Leathes, Beveridge, W. H. Stephens, David Fisher, jun., Harcourt, Paul Gray, Balfour, &c.; Miss Telbin, and Mrs. Hermann Vezin. Preceded at 7.30 by THE SCAPEGOAT, Miss Nellie Harris, Rosine Power, Paul Gray, Harcourt, Balfour, and W. H. Stephens. Box-office open daily from 11 to 5.—Acting Manager, Mr. W. A. Burt.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.

On Saturday, March 3rd, and Every Evening at 7.30, THE DOWAGER. Messrs. H. Cox, Grahame, and W. H. Vernon. Mesdames F. Hughes, F. Brunell and Ada Swanborough. At 8.20, BABES AND BEETLES. Mr. John S. Clarke, Mr. Vernon, Miss Venne, &c. Conclude with TRIAL BY JURY. Messrs. Cox, Marius, Penley, Parry and J. G. Taylor. Miss Venne, &c.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Mr. Henry Neville, Sole Lessee.—QUEEN OF CONNAUGHT. Re-appearance in London of MISS ADA CAVENDISH in a New and Picturesque Comedy Drama called "THE QUEEN OF CONNAUGHT." Mr. Henry Neville as John Darlington. Mr. W. J. Hill, Mr. J. A. Arnold, Mr. Flockton, Miss Dubois and Miss Gerard. Every Evening at 7.45. Preceded at 7, by RAISING THE WIND.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Mr. Hare, Sole Lessee and Manager.—EVERY EVENING, punctually at Eight o'clock, NEW MEN AND OLD ACRES, written by Tom Taylor and A. W. Dubourg. The principal characters will be acted by Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. Gaston Murray, Mrs. Stephens, Miss Kate Aubrey; Mr. Kelly, Mr. Anson, Mr. Conway, Mr. Ersser Jones, and Mr. Hare. The new scenery painted by Messrs. Gordon and Harford.—Doors open at 7.30. Box-office hours 11 to 5.—Acting-Manager, Mr. John Huy. Fourth Morning Performance, To-day (Saturday), March 10th.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.—Lessees

Messrs. D. James and T. Thorne. Enormous Success of OUR BOYS. Every Evening, at 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG; at 8, the most successful comedy, OUR BOYS, written by H. J. Byron. Concluding with A FEARFUL FOG; supported by Messrs. William Farren, David James, C. W. Garthorne, J. P. Bernard, W. Lestocq, A. Austin and Thomas Thorne. Mesdames Amy Roselle, Kate Bishop, Nellie Walters, Cicely Richards, Sophie Larkin, &c. Acting Manager, Mr. D. McKay.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—BIORN.—Grand Romantic Opera.

Music by Lauro Rosse, Libretto by Frank Marshall, scenery by Gordon and Harford. Charming characteristic ballet, costumes and scenic effects by Alfred Thompson. Splendid band and chorus, selected from Her Majesty's and the Royal Italian Operas. Conductor, Signor Tito Mattel, universally pronounced to be the most splendidly mounted opera ever produced in England. Every night (except Wednesdays). Doors open at 7.30, commence at 8, concludes at 11. Seats can be secured at all the libraries, and at the Box office of the Theatre.

41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, and 45th nights.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, HOXTON.—Sole

Proprietress, Mrs. S. Lane.—Every Evening, at 7.30, TURLUTUTU; or, THE THREE ENCHANTED HATS. Mrs. S. Lane, Mr. Fred Foster, Miss Pollie Randall, Messrs. Bigwood, Lewis, Drayton, Fox, Reeve, Rhoads, Pitt, Parry, Hyde, Mdles. Summers, Rayner, Mrs. Newham, and the Lupino Troupe. Preceded at 6.45, by SAVED BY A WORLD. Messrs. Reynolds, Newbound, J. B. Howe, Jackson. Mdles. Adams, Bellair, Brewer. Wednesday, the Hand-in-Hand Society's Benefit.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—EVERY EVENING. MISS KATE SANTLEY will appear as Clarette (by desire) in LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT. Lange, Miss Emily Muir, (specially engaged) Pomponnet, Mr. J. D. Stoyle, Piton, Mr. Henry Hallam. Messrs. Kelleher and Beyer; Miss Rose Cullen, Rose Roberts, and a strong company. Prices, from 6d. to £3 3s. Doors open at 7, commence at 7.30.

SANGER'S GRAND NATIONAL AMPHITHEATRE, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD. Last Seven Nights of the Season. Morning Performances every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 2. Production with New Scenery &c., of the Hippodramatic Spectacle, DICK TURPIN, illustrating vividly all the romantic incidents, making famous the career of this noted Highwayman, and introducing the Beautiful and Highly-trained mare BLACK BESS, which was the theme of universal admiration in the same character in this Theatre two years since. The character of Dick Turpin will be impersonated by Mr. Henry Bertrand. An Entire New Company of Equestrian Artistes will also make their first appearance in London.

SANGER'S GRAND NATIONAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Grand Morning Performances of DICK TURPIN, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 2, and Every Evening at 7. The Continental Troupe of First-class Equestrians will also appear at each entertainment. Prices as usual.—Manager, Mr. Sydney Cooper; Stage-Manager, Mr. Henry Bertrand.

ROYAL GRE

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GLASGOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL STALLION SHOW.

THE seventeenth annual stallion show, in connection with the Glasgow Agricultural Society, took place on the 27th inst., in the Cattle Market, which had been kindly granted for the purpose by the Market Trust. From small beginnings this show has grown till it is now the principal show in the United Kingdom for Clydesdale horses, and the exertions of the directors have been rewarded by a success of which at one time even the most sanguine would not have dared to predict. With a start of some half-dozen animals, none of them of any great merit, it can now present to the gaze of those interested in the breed of Clydesdale horses a collection of animals the merit of which it would be very difficult to excel. It almost appeared that the onward tide of progress would have been to a certain extent stayed by the unfortunate division which took place among the members last year, and which at that time resulted in two shows, neither of which came up to that of the preceding year. This division was allowed to continue during the summer, but by the end of the season it became apparent to all parties that it was better to have one strong and influential society than two weaker ones. Through the good offices of Sir Michael Shaw Stewart and other gentlemen, negotiations were entered into for a reunion of the opposing associations, and with the able assistance of Sir William Stirling-Maxwell this has been happily accomplished; and the tide of prosperity which had previously flowed on unchecked, is now turned into its natural channel, with the result that the exhibition far surpassed anything that has yet taken place under the auspices of this now flourishing society.

As might have been expected, the turn-out of spectators was very large, and spacious as the Cattle Market is, it was found to be rather crowded for convenience. The weather fortunately was fine. A heavy fall of snow had occurred during Monday night, but as keen frost set in immediately afterwards, the snow was dry and crisp, and though the sun shone brightly, it had little effect on it. The sum drawn during the day for admission was £450.

It is satisfactory to know that the ultimate decisions of the judges have given universal satisfaction. The prize tickets amongst the Clydesdales were awarded to Darnley and Ivanhoe, the former receiving the medal as the horse of greater merit. Darnley, it will be remembered, was the successful horse of last year at the society's show, and his victory this year is a corroboration of the merit of an animal which has been very generally admired. This horse is of a bay colour, and is five years old.

Keir, from whom Mr. Riddell purchased him about 18 months ago. His sire was Conqueror, who secured the Glasgow premium in 1870 and 1871, and travelled in the Doune and Dunblane district as a three-year-old. The dam was Sir Wm. Stirling-Maxwell's noted Peggy, known as the famous Barnbrook filly, and who took first honours at the Highland Society's show at

property of Mr. T. F. Hornastle, of Hull. It is out of a good stock, and is by Brother to Strafford, out of Miss Bowman, and was bred at Nemarket. While it cannot be said that Beacon, which is a five-year-old, has had a distinguished career, at the same time it has not been unmarked. As a two-year-old, the horse won a Selling Nursery Handicap of £140 at the Newmarket October Meeting; and at the succeeding Liverpool was a good second to Robin in the race for the Mersey Trial Cup. In the next campaign Beacon had three wins—first, at the York Spring Meeting, when it carried off the Stamford Selling Stakes of £90; second, at Redcar, where it placed the Middlesbrough Welter Handicap to the credit of its owner; and third at the Stockton Autumn Meeting, where it carried off from "Dunham Massey," at equal weights, the Garbutt Pedestrian Welter Handicap of £100. Thereafter, the horse was put to the stud. Beacon possesses many of the qualities which distinguished the good thoroughbred—having a neat head, with full and bright eye, a muscular neck, a moderately long body, with a gentle rise about the withers, the hind quarters being strong and well developed, and the hocks well boned.

This class of roadsters compared indifferently with last year's lot. There were only eleven entries, and with the exception of the horse placed first none call for remark. Fireaway, which met with the highest commendation which the judges could bestow, was a brown horse, aged seven years, a lovely looking animal, beautifully proportioned, well developed, and has splendid action. It was far and away superior to any of the others put into the ring. Mr. Martin's "Derby," which was ranked second, is a much smaller horse, but a very compactly-built animal. Mr. Rintoul's "Trojan," was hardly in its proper class, though it was placed third.

The following are a few of the sales which were effected:—Mr. Wilkie, of Cowdenlaws, Fife, bought the dark bay four-year-old horse, "The Laird," from Mr. James Shannon, Balig, Kirkcudbright, at £400. Mr. Wm. Wyllie, Fenwick, Ayrshire, sold his bay five-year-old horse "Paragon" for £600, to Messrs. Pickford & Co., London. This horse was fancied by several societies, but the price offered was such as to induce Mr. Wyllie to sell him. Mr. Wyllie also sold his dark bay "Lochinvar" for £300 to Mr. W. Christian, Isle of Man; and the same gentleman bought the bay six-year-old "None Such" to go to the Isle of Man, for a like sum. Mr. J. Kerr, Lochend,

Kilbirnie, sold the three-year-old bright bay horse "Gladstone" to Mr. Crawford, Kintyre, Campbeltown, for £300. Mr. Andrew Clark, Manswraes, Kilbarchan, sold the three-year-old light-brown horse "Sovereign" to Mr. John Nicolson, The Bank, Wigton, for 300 guineas.

THE prospectus of the Orleans Club informs us that the club "is established" at Orleans House, Twickenham, "for the convenience of gentlemen interested in national sports, and is intended as an agreeable country resort for members, their families, and friends; also as a place of rendezvous for members of the

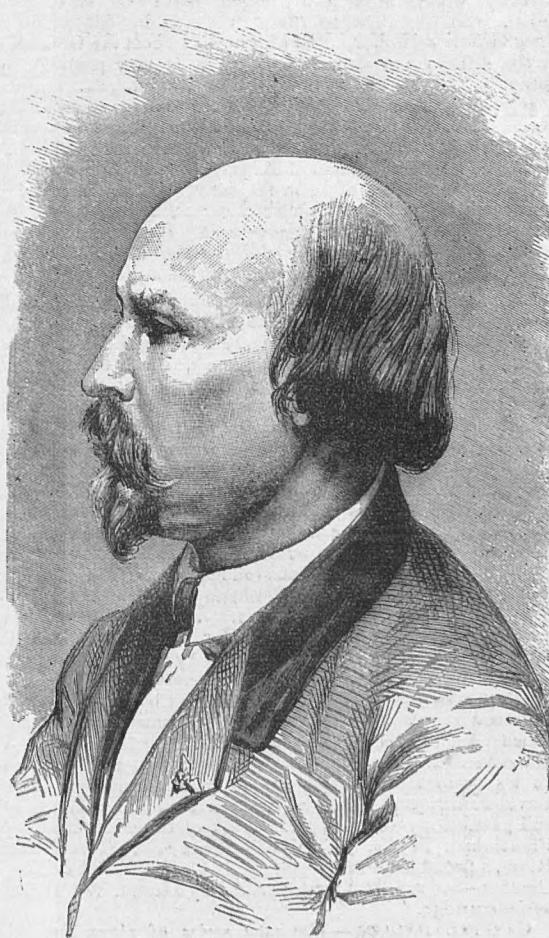


DR. MOENTHAL.

Stirling, first at Battersea, and other places. Darnley has thoroughly fulfilled the promise he gave when a two-year-old, and he looks as if there were further honours in store for him. The horse which may be said to enjoy equal honours with Darnley is Ivanhoe, a light bay four-year-old belonging to Mr. Peter Crawford, Dumgoyack. This horse is strong and powerful, possesses a fine head, and beats his more fortunate competitor about the thigh, and though he is light about the shoulder he is considered by some to have more of a Clydesdale look about him than Darnley. He was bred by Mr. Hunter of Machray, his sire being Lorne. Ivanhoe, when a three-year-old, was placed in the short leet in the show of last year, and received a commended ticket at the farmers' show, and travelled in the Kirkmichael district last year. He has materially improved during the year, and has taken a position which promises good things in the future. The unsuccessful horse Prince of Altyre, a bay, and also owned by Mr. Riddell, is a little larger in body than his stable companion, and wants bone slightly. He is, however, a good horse. The sire is the Prince of Wales, and when a yearling he gained the first prize in the county of Renfrew show, and also took similar honours at the Highland Society's show at Inverness. At that time Mr. Riddell sold him to Mr. Gordon Cumming, and only bought him back very recently.

Coming next to the three-year-olds, the judges had not the same amount of good quality to contend with, although there were a large number of promising animals in the ring. The whole number of 83 were inspected before noon. Sir Colin, the Earl of Strathmore's Victor, Mr. Chalmers's Royal Charlie, Mr. Lamond's Gladstone, Mr. M'Robbie's The Viceroy, Mr. Johnston's Landsman, Mr. Johnston's Black Watch, Mr. Clark's Sovereign, Mr. Riddell's The Bonnie Breast Knot, and Mr. Riddell's Stanley, and the silver medal was attached to Sir Colin, a dark bay horse belonging to Mr. Peter Ferguson, Renfrew. Along with this honour it also received Mr. M'Dowall's medal, and had an opportunity of testing its quality alongside the aged horses. In this contest, as might naturally be expected, it was unsuccessful, but that did not in the least detract from the merit which the animal possesses. Sir Colin's sire was Farmer, and though he only took fifth place at Aberdeen last year as a two-year-old, he has wonderfully improved since then. He has now a splendid appearance, and with the exception of wanting a little muscle about the knees he may be said to be a neat compact horse. Besides the silver medals, he was secured by the deputation from the Castle-Douglas and Glenkens district, who gave the owner a premium of £100. He will therefore travel in that district during the season.

The show of thoroughbreds was not equal to the displays made in 1875 and 1874. As compared with last year the numbers have fallen off considerably, a circumstance presumably due amongst other things, to the fact that the prize offered was less tempting than it was twelve months ago, the reduction being the no insignificant sum of £50. But there were good reasons, which need not now be referred to, for the action taken last year in increasing the premium to the amount at which it stood; and in restoring it to yesterday's figure the directors were no doubt warranted by sound considerations. The main object of the association is to encourage the breed of Clydesdales, the improvement of thoroughbreds and roadsters, while matters of some moment, being subordinate to the chief intent. There were only eight thoroughbreds entered yesterday, but as a whole they were not up to those which were seen at previous shows. The judges had little difficulty in awarding highest honours to "Beacon," the



VICTOR MASSE.

He is uncommonly fine, his pasterns and feet being extraordinarily good, while in the opinion of some his head is just small enough, and he wants a little about the thigh. He looks very well, and is considered by some just as perfect a Clydesdale as could almost be wished for. He was bred by Sir Wm. Stirling-Maxwell of



T. S. DAWSON.

four-in-hand and coaching clubs." There are to be garden-parties, flower shows, and dances in the season; and the charming grounds will be devoted to polo, lacrosse, cricket, lawn tennis, and archery. Moreover, the promoters propose to run a stage coach daily from Hatchett's to Twickenham.

MUSIC.

(All Music sent for review will be noticed within one month after its arrival.)

ROYAL WESTMINSTER AQUARIUM.

(MR. DEFFELL'S "CORSAIR.")

In March, 1873, Mr. Deffell's three act opera, *The Corsair*, was produced, for the first time in public, at the Crystal Palace, with Miss Blanche Cole as Gulnare, Mr. Nordblom as Conrad, and Mr. Aynsley Cook as Seyd. Since that date the two last-named artists have not, so far as we know, made any advance in public favour; but Miss, now Madame Blanche Cole has established her reputation as one of the most accomplished among modern prime-donne, and Mr. Deffell was fortunate in securing her services for the revival of his opera at the Westminster Aquarium. He was also lucky in his tenor, Mr. Dudley Thomas, who has a voice of telling quality, and although new to the stage shows much dramatic intelligence, and actually takes the trouble to learn the notes he has to sing! The small part of Medora was well filled by Miss Cora Stuart, a promising young artiste, and the only regrettable feature in the performance was the Seyd of Mr. H. Corri. His acting and "make up" were excellent, but his voice failed him so often that the bass music was heard at a disadvantage. Perhaps nervousness may have interfered with the success of this excellent artist, and we shall be glad to learn that he has regained the vocal powers which were wanting on Saturday last. The choristers were apparently the same who sang in the opera when first performed; the Aquarium orchestra, though rather weak in the stringed department, is otherwise of good quality, Mr. Dubois is a clever conductor, the scenery furnished last Saturday was remarkably good; and thus it will be seen that Mr. Deffell's work has been reproduced under circumstances which may fairly be called advantageous. It must also be borne in mind that he has been enabled to profit by the critical counsels offered him four years back, and that he has very wisely cut out some recitations of undue length, besides revising the score, both in its vocal and instrumental departments. So far as London is concerned the work is almost a complete novelty; and on Saturday last it attracted a large audience, who frequently bestowed applause on the performance, and called the composer before the curtain at the termination of the opera. Under all these circumstances we might have hoped to chronicle a success, but we fear that the radical defects of *The Corsair* must prevent it from obtaining a place among popular operas. Its dramatic construction is defective, it is deficient in original melody, and the vocal music is often tedious. The plot is arranged as follows:—

Seyd, a Pacha, whose territory has suffered from the ravages of a band of Corsairs, has determined to take his enemies unawares, and exterminate their colony. His plan is betrayed to Conrad, chief of the corsairs, who immediately resolves to be beforehand with the Pacha, and after a hurried parting with his wife Medora he sails on the expedition. The Pacha, however, is too well prepared; and after the first surprise the corsairs are beaten back, and Conrad taken prisoner. During the fight, Conrad has rescued from a burning wing of the palace Gulnare, favourite of Seyd's harem. His prowess has kindled a sudden passion in her heart, which, added to her hatred of Seyd, incites her to attempt Conrad's rescue. Failing to induce Seyd to spare his life, and set him free for a ransom, and taunted by Seyd as to her motives, in a frenzy of passion she stabs her tyrant, and then effects Conrad's escape and her own. As they sail towards the corsair's island she finds that her deed has been partly in vain; Conrad does not return her love, but thinks only of Medora, and shrinks from one whose hand is stained by murder. He relents, however, towards her, recollecting that it is through her crime that he is restored to liberty and Medora, and he springs on shore amid the welcome of the islanders; but their shouts of joy are broken by the sound of a dirge, up the hill-side, where they are bearing to her burial Medora, who has died of grief at the prolonged absence of Conrad. Maddened at the sound, Conrad breaks from them all, and rushing up the mountain, is lost in the darkness. His comrades pursue, and bring him back in a dying state, he having stabbed himself on finding that Medora is no more. Gulnare sinks to the ground overwhelmed with grief, and inconsolable at the loss of one for whom she has dared so much.

From a laudable desire to adhere closely to the original poem, the operatic plot has been rendered weak. In Verdi's opera, *Il Corsaro*, Medora is seen in the last act, and her death, in the presence of Conrad and Gulnare, gives occasion for some charming musical effects. In Mr. Deffell's piece, Medora is not seen again after the first act, and thus an element of dramatic effect is lost. The death scene of Conrad is a poor substitution, and is over elaborated, till Conrad becomes a nuisance, from "taking such an unconscionable time in dying." Verdi makes the character of Seyd both vocally and dramatically important, which Mr. Deffell does not succeed in doing; nor does the latter give distinct and contrasted characters to the music of the Greeks and the Turks. The principal melodies are familiar in form, and it is only in the choruses that originality is approached. The chief merit of the work is its orchestration, which is well written, and is often rendered effective by picturesque and suggestive instrumental colouring. Mr. Deffell, although an amateur, handles his orchestra so well that he may be expected to achieve successes hereafter. He might improve his opera by cutting out half of the existing vocal music, and replacing it by more original melodies; but it would be better that he should try his hand on an entirely fresh subject, avoiding the defects which *The Corsair* exhibits. He should not be discouraged by the partial failure of his first attempt, but should remember that Rossini and many other composers failed far more signally with their first operas. His work shows him to be an accomplished musician, and among his native competitors there are few who are better furnished with the technical knowledge which is so essential to a composer.

Madame Blanche Cole did all that was possible for the part of Gulnare. Her acting was impressive and graceful, and her singing was in all respects admirable. It is unaccountable that artists thus qualified to fulfil the highest requirements of operatic art should be absent from the English lyric stage in London, and their places occupied by inferior foreign artists incapable of speaking English, and tyros who are placed in prima donna parts before they have learned how to sing. Madame Blanche Cole's vocalisation in her first scene was worthy of any operatic arena, and her finished art elicited frequent and hearty applause. Miss Cora Stuart, as Medora, sang and acted with genuine dramatic feeling. Mr. Dudley Thomas, as Conrad, made a decided success, both vocally and histrionically. The choruses were not remarkably well sung. How could they be made effective, when the sopranos were almost all of them possessors of long, very long, experience, but of only the remnants of voices? Mr. Dubois conducted carefully, but with that tendency to drag the time which is frequently shown by conductors who have had no practice in the direction of operatic performances.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.

The first concert this season, of Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir, was given last week, at St. James's Hall, and attracted a large attendance. The programme was enriched by several of those madrigals, glees, and part-songs, &c., which are the chief attractions of the Society's concerts, and "Down in a flow'ry vale," "My Bonny Lass," "Flow O my tears," and other old favourites were received with hearty welcomes. The chief feature in the concert was Bach's motett, for double choir, "Sing ye to the Lord"—its first performance in England. It is very difficult, and although we believe that it had been frequently rehearsed, the choir were less successful than usual in their performances. Not only in this work, but also in Mr. Henry Smart's "Ave Maria," and in other pieces, some of the sopranos sang out of tune. So unusual a circumstance should suggest the necessity of carefully testing the qualifications of the soprano members of the choir, upon whom so much depends. The solo vocalists were, Miss Robertson, who unwisely attempted the vocal waltz from *Mirella*, which is at present quite above her powers of execution, Miss Fontlanque, a well trained mezzo-soprano, who sang Rossini's "Fac ut portem" successfully, and Mr. Edward Lloyd, who sang Gounod's "Maid of Athens," Rossini's "Cujus animam" and Mr. Leslie's new song "Always," which is hardly worthy of the composer. Mr. Leslie conducted admirably. The accompanier was Mr. Calcott, the organist Mr. Ward.

CARRODUS AND HOWELL CONCERTS.

ON Tuesday last, MM. J. T. Carrodus and Edward Howell gave the concluding Quartet Concert of their first series, and provided a programme which was worthy of the occasion, including Molique's four pieces for violin and pianoforte (MM. Carrodus and H. Thomas), Mendelssohn's Romance for violoncello (Mr. Edward Howell), Chopin's second Scherzo in B flat minor (Mr. Edmund Dannreuther), Reinberger's quartet in E flat, op. 38 (MM. Dannreuther, Carrodus, Doyle, and E. Howell), and Beethoven's quartet in F, op. 59, No. 1 (MM. Carrodus, Val Nicholson, Doyle, and E. Howell). This well-chosen selection was excellently performed by the artists above-named, and special merit was exhibited by Mr. Carrodus in the specimen given of his master, Molique, and by Mr. Edward Howell in the violoncello Romance. The vocal music comprised Weber's "If a youth," Gounod's "Où voulez-vous aller?" and Dr. Arne's "Where the bee sucks," and the vocalist, Madame Rose Hersee, sang these three pieces in faultless style and with much beauty of vocal tone. Mr. Henry Thomas accompanied admirably, and his pianoforte playing in the selection from Molique was of a high order of excellence. The large and fashionable audience were warm in their applause, and MM. Carrodus and Howell may be congratulated on the successful results of their demonstration in favour of native artists.

MR. F. CHATTERTON'S HARP RECITAL.

YESTERDAY, at St. George's Hall, an interesting harp recital was given by Mr. Frederic Chatterton, the well known and popular professor of the harp, assisted by Mdlles. Fairman, Paterson and Webster, Mr. George Forbes and other artists. Mr. Chatterton played with his accustomed brilliancy and success, and was warmly applauded. The chief attraction of the concert, however, was the debut of his pupil and niece, Miss Mary Chatterton, daughter of the popular lessee of Drury Lane Theatre. In spite of nervousness, the fair débutante made a decided and genuine success, both in her two solos—Mr. F. Chatterton's Harp Fantasia on the "Carnival of Venice," and a brilliant harp fantasia composed by another uncle, the late Mr. J. Balsir Chatterton—and in her share of a grand duet for two harps on themes from *Norma*. Her execution was brilliant and certain, her touch sympathetic, her production of tone all that could be desired, and her phrasing characterised by intellectuality. Mr. Frederic Chatterton may be congratulated on the success of his gifted pupil, who bids fair to attain a distinguished position in the musical world.

The Cambridge University Musical Society's concert, given on Thursday last in honour of Herr Joachim, will be noticed in our next number.

Biorn, the joint work of Mr. Frank Marshall and Signor Lauro Rossi, has latterly gone much better than at the first performance. Mrs. Marshall, having recovered from her indisposition, has been able to do justice to her vocal and dramatic abilities, Mdlle. Corandi has much improved in her impersonation of Hela, and the rôle of Biorn has been assigned to Mr. Charles Howard, who possesses a well trained baritone voice of fine quality, and not only sings in finished style, but acts with dramatic power and expression. The orchestra, under Signor Tito Mattei, has maintained its high character as an assemblage of first-rate instrumentalists.

Apropos of Mr. Deffell's opera, founded on Byron's poem "The Corsair" we are reminded that the story was successfully adapted to operatic purposes many years ago in *The Pacha's Bridal*, which had a great success at the Lyceum Theatre—then the English opera-house. The baritone song in this opera "I've watched with thee the daylight stealing," retains its popularity. The original singer was the late Mr. Henry Phillips. One morning he declared himself too unwell to perform at night, and the house would have been closed, had not a substitute unexpectedly presented himself in the person of a young chorister, who undertook the part at four hours' notice, and sang it so splendidly that next morning he "found himself famous." His name—a name that will long be remembered—was Adam Leffler. The opening chorus of the opera, "O'er the glad waters of the dark blue sea" was for many years popular. The composer was Mr. Frank Romer, who was then a successful musician, and is now a successful publisher, in the firm of Hutchings and Romer, Conduit-street.

At the Edinburgh Theatre Royal, the Carl Rosa company have been delighting large audiences with *Zampa*, the *Bohemian Girl*, the *Flying Dutchman*, Mr. Cowen's *Pauline* and *Fidelio*, and will produce on the 10th inst. (to-night), for the first time in Glasgow, Sir Jules Benedict's *Lily of Killarney*.

The Leeds Musical Festival, in aid of the medical charities of the town took place last week; and five concerts were given, with the assistance of several distinguished artists. The Sheffield papers speak highly of the performances, and especially of the conductor, Mr. Frederic Archer, who directed a large and excellent orchestra. Besides wielding the conductor's baton, Mr. Archer appears to have distinguished himself as a pianist by his fine execution of Sterndale Bennett's pianoforte concerto in F minor, and by his masterly organ-playing. Mr. Sims Reeves was unable to fulfil his engagement at the festival, owing to indisposition.

MR. THOMAS ROGERS, proprietor of the People's Music Hall, Hanley, has been fined £90 for having produced at his music hall a pantomime called *Robinson Crusoe*, and played it thirty-six nights, after the local magistrates had refused him a dramatic license.

IN anticipation of the visit of the Prince of Wales for two days' hunting this week, Melton was rapidly crowded with visitors. Earl Granville, who is the guest of Lord Wolverton, arrived on Monday, and the Quorn Hounds had a good run from Melby cover.

COUGHS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.—Medical Testimony states that no other medicine is so effectual in the cure of these dangerous maladies as KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES. One lozenge alone gives relief, one or two at bedtime ensures rest. Sold by all Chemists, in boxes, at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. They contain no opium or preparation thereof.—[ADVR.]

THE DRAMA.

ALTHOUGH a special representation of *The Forty Thieves* for the benefit of the Funds of the Dramatic College was given at Drury-lane on Monday evening, the pantomime season terminated both at Drury-lane and Sanger's on Saturday night, the Christmas pantomimes still continue at the Adelphi, Surrey, and Grecian—and at the first two named houses will run to Easter, and at the third probably till Whitsuntide. The season at Hengler's terminates to-night, and at Sanger's next week.

While a few changes have taken place at some of the theatres during the week, the two principal have been the revivals on Saturday evening of *The Colleen Bawn* at the Adelphi, and *The Trial by Jury* at the Strand. The only novelty to be recorded has been the opera of *The Corsair*, at the Royal Aquarium Theatre, which was represented some three or four years ago at the Crystal Palace.

GAETY THEATRE.—A more than usually crowded audience attended the Gaiety matinée on Saturday last, when *The Lady of Lyons* was represented with a very efficient cast, including Mr. and Mrs. Kendal as Claude Melnotte and Pauline, Mr. Maclean as Dumas, all three most excellent and artistic impersonations. Messrs. J. H. Barnes and Charles as Beaumont and Glavis, and Mrs. J. F. Young and Mrs. Leigh respectively as Madame Deschappelles and the Widow Melnotte. The performance was so successful that it has to be repeated this afternoon. At the afternoon performance on Wednesday, the three act drama of *The Old Corporal* was given, with the principal character of Antoine Simon, sustained by Mr. J. F. Young, who has already represented it with remarkable success in the provinces.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—Mr. Boucicault's striking and ever-popular drama, *The Colleen Bawn*, was again revived here on Saturday night in succession to *The Shaughraun*. Although the present cast cannot be compared to the original one, it is sufficiently efficient to give satisfaction to the audience, who still enjoy the familiar incidents and sensational situations, laugh at the humour and roguery of Myles Macopppaleen, weep over, sympathise with the trials and sorrows of Eily O'Connor, and execrate the rascality of Corrigan and the savage cruelty of Danny Mann. Mr. Charles Sullivan, though deficient in the pathos of the character, is roystering and broadly humorous as Myles; Miss Hudspeth as the suffering heroine Eily, is, as usual in every character she essays, careful, intelligent, and interesting; Miss Taylor makes a spirited Anne Chute, and Miss Edith Stuart lends useful aid as Mrs. Cregan. Hardress Cregan, Father Tom, Kyrie Daly, and Corrigan, find adequate exponents in Messrs. Terris, Moreland, J. G. Shore, and Calhaem; but the most striking and finished impersonation in the present revival, is the Danny Mann of Mr. Shiel Barry, and is a worthy companion picture, if indeed it be not superior to, his Michael Feeny. The drama is preceded by the pantomime, *Goody Two Shoes*, so cleverly represented entirely by children, and which is still so attractive, as to be continued not only in the evening programmes, but to be represented in afternoons of Wednesdays and Saturdays. Mr. Slous's prize drama, *True to the Core*, is in preparation, and will be the next novelty at this house.

STRAND THEATRE.—Two changes were made in the programme of this house on Saturday evening. Mr. Charles Mathews's bright and lively comedietta, *The Dowager*, only recently revived here and temporarily withdrawn, resumed its place in lieu of *Keep Your Temper*, as a *lever de rideau* to Tom Taylor's *Babes and Beetles*, in which, as the leading character (Beetles, the henpecked husband of a termagant lodging-house keeper), Mr. J. S. Clarke affords sufficient laughter for a whole evening's entertainment; and Messrs. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan's burlesque operetta, *Trial by Jury*, was revived and represented for the first time at this theatre—and with considerable success—being not only admirably suited to the size and patrons of this popular temple of Momus, but Mrs. Swanborough's company being peculiarly qualified to give full effect to the extravagantly drollery of the several characters. Mr. J. G. Taylor, without approaching the finish and unrivalled burlesque acting and singing of the original creator of the part, the lamented Frederick Sullivan, made an amusing and consistently droll, from a burlesque point of view, learned judge, who has risen to his high estate by his union with the daughter of an influential attorney, and cuts the Gordian knot of the difficulties of the trial over which he now presides, by the determination to marry the plaintiff himself. M. Marius was energetic—perhaps too much so—as the defendant, and sang the music allotted to him with spirit and point. Mr. C. Parry as the counsel for the plaintiff, Mr. Harry Cox as the usher of the court, and Mr. Penley as foreman of the jury, were zealous in giving full effect to the drollery of their respective assumptions, and Miss Lottie Venne again distinguished herself by the grace, refinement, and piquancy of her comedy acting, and artistic and finished style of her singing as the plaintiff. The clever satire on law proceedings, *The Trial by Jury*, has made a great hit.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Messrs. Wells and Frank Marshall's drama *Cora*, adapted from M. Adolphe Belot's *L'Article 47*, has been greatly improved and rendered more close and brisk in action, by judicious compression of the dialogue, since the night of its first production in London last week, but it is susceptible of still further improvement by some more effective termination than is now brought about in the weak third act, to which the intensely powerful and exciting dramatic mad scene closing the second act is an overwhelming anti-climax. Gloomy and morbid as is its prevailing tone, the strong dramatic incidents and absorbing interest of the story as set forth in this English version of M. Belot's drama, keep the attention of the audience riveted from beginning to end, while its numerous inconsistencies of motive are utterly overshadowed by the marvellously powerful and thoroughly finished acting of Mrs. Hermann Vezin as the heroine, Cora. A more elaborately worked out impersonation has not been witnessed on the stage for a long time, and should not be missed. She is ably supported by the exponents of three or four of the other leading characters—especially by Mr. Leathes, who greatly distinguished himself by the quiet and well-sustained repose and assumption of refinement and polish with which he represents the adventurer and gambler, Victor Marzillier. Mr. Fernandez has bestowed evident study and care on his personation of Georges du Hamel, the hero, and Mr. David Fisher, jun., displayed considerable comic ability of refined and genuine nature in his personation of the weak-headed young Frenchman, Potain. Two subordinate characters—Comte de Rives, a proud old French general, and a benevolent doctor, Paul Combes—are artistically represented by Messrs. W. H. Stevens and Beveridge.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The new series of plays, consisting of dramatised versions of popular novels, and produced under the direction of Mr. Charles Wyndham, are progressing with remarkable success.

For to-night the following events have been announced:—

Drury-lane, which has remained closed since the special representation of the pantomime on Monday night for the benefit of the Dramatic College, re-opens to-night for the production of Mr. Henry Spicer's new romantic drama, entitled *Haska*, in which the two leading characters will be sustained by Mr. Creswick and Miss Leighton. The new drama, of stirring interest, and the scene of which is laid in Hungary, will be preceded by the

amusing farce of *Ten of 'Em*, followed by Mr. Cormack's grand ballet divertissement *The Date Tree Grove*, from the pantomime *The Forty Thieves*, in which the accomplished Mdlle. Bossi will again be the première danseuse.

At the Opera Comique *Partners for Life* will replace *The Prompter's Box*, which in consequence of Mr. Byron's provincial engagements, was withdrawn last night.

At the Royalty the successful run of Offenbach's *Orphée aux Enfers* terminated last night, and this evening *La Fille de Madame Angot* will be revived, Miss Kate Santley appearing in the rôle of Clairette.

Mr. and Mrs. Billington, Miss Meyrick and their company having completed their representations of the two dramas *Heroes* and *Rough and Ready* at the Park Theatre, will be succeeded there this evening by Mr. Lin Rayne and a well selected company, who will appear in the new drama, entitled *A Fight for Life*.

On Monday next, at the German Reed's entertainment, Mr. Burnand's *Matched and Mated* will be replaced by a new piece entitled *Two Foster Brothers*, written by Mr. Gilbert à Beckett, the music by Mr. A. Cellier.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Strand Theatre on Tuesday evening.

H.R.H. Princess Beatrice and suite witnessed the performance of *Our Boys* at the Vaudeville on Thursday evening last week, and on the following evening attended the Olympic Theatre.

The Chinese Ambassador and suite attended the performance at the Alhambra on Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Wigan will give a matinée dramatique on Tuesday next at the Gaiety Theatre. They will be assisted by some amateur friends.

The last nights are announced at the Haymarket of *Pygmalion* and *Galatea*, which will be succeeded by a revival of Mr. Gilbert's *Palace of Truth*.

The Queen of Connaught will be withdrawn from the bills of the Olympic on Saturday night next, and on the following Monday the play of *The Wife's Secret* will be produced on the occasion of the annual benefit of Mr. Henry Neville, who will sustain the part of Sir Walter Amyott; Miss Bella Pateman making her re-appearance as Lady Amyott.

Mr. M. L. Mayer, nothing daunted by his failure about two years ago at the Princess's, where he produced, with great splendour and completeness, the spectacular drama of *Round the World in Eighty Days*, will again try his managerial luck at the Duke's, which he opens on the 31st inst. with a new and sensational drama, entitled *The Two Mothers*, in which the principal characters will be sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Billington, Mr. Lin Rayne, and Mr. McIntyre.

Although it was Mr. F. Marshall's original intention of representing Lauro Rossi's opera *Biorr* for one month only, he has now decided on continuing it until Easter at the Queen's.

It is at the Criterion and not at the Folly, as was at first intimated, that Mr. Henderson will produce Messrs. Arthur Matthison and Edward Solomon's new musical farce *Contempt of Court*, and which will be ready by Saturday next or the following Monday.

The production for the first time at the Prince of Wales's Theatre of *London Assurance* with the strong cast as given in our last week's number, and of Mr. Savile Rowe's new comedietta *The Vicarage*, a domestic story, acted for the first time by Mr. Kendal, Mr. Arthur Cecil, and Mrs. Bancroft, is fixed for Saturday, the 31st inst., when Mrs. Bancroft will reappear after nearly a year's absence, through her indisposition. The comedy has been specially revised by the author, Mr. Boucicault, and will be compressed into four acts.

Miss Kate Santley and her opéra-bouffe company go to the National Standard at Easter for a short engagement.

A new burlesque, by Mr. Burnand, entitled, *Babes in the Wood*, is in preparation at the Gaiety.

A Fight for Life—the drama founded upon Moy Thomas's novel by Messrs. Savile Clarke and Du Terreau—will be brought out for the first time in London at the Park Theatre on Saturday next. Mr. Lin Rayne who played the hero Edward Carrell, with such success in the country, will appear, supported by a strong company. The drama is a stirring one, with several strong situations in it, of which we understand Mr. Rayne makes the most. The part is said to suit him admirably, and his sound elocution is of immense value in it. His acting received commendation from the principal provincial papers wherever he appeared.

The amateur performance got up by Mrs. Monckton for the benefit of the Masonic charities, will not take place on the 21st April, but on Saturday, May 5, at 2.30, at the Opera Comique Theatre. The Prince of Wales has graciously signified the intention of the Princess and himself to honour the performance by their presence.

The amateur entertainment given at St. George's Hall, on January 18th, enabled its members to hand over to the authorities of the Metropolitan Free Hospital the sum of £100 4s. 9d. in aid of their building fund.

The death has been announced of Mr. Charles Fenton, the well-known actor and scene-painter. Mr. Fenton was employed at Sadler's Wells during the whole period of the management of Messrs. Phelps and Greenwood, and his last engagement was at the Vaudeville, where he played the part of Moses during the long run of the *School for Scandal*.

A season of French plays will commence on Monday, May 21, at the Gaiety Theatre, and terminate about the end of July. On Monday, May 21, the successful play, by MM. Erckmann-Chatrian, *L'Ami Fritz*, now being played at the Comédie Française, Paris, will be represented for a few nights only, with M. Février in his original character. On Monday, June 4, Mdlle. Thérèsa will make her first appearance in England, for two weeks only, in one of her popular pieces, introducing all her celebrated songs. M. Didier will make his appearance during this engagement. On Monday, June 18, Madame Céline Chaumont will appear in her old and new *répertoire*, supported by a popular and efficient company. After this engagement, which is for a few weeks only, if time permits, Mdlle. Judic will make her appearance and close the season. The prices will be as usual.

The New York Herald in an article upon Miss Neilson and the divorce which she has recently obtained in the American courts, states that the popular actress was naturalized as an American citizen in 1873. She is not only a citizen of that country but a resident in it, and that she intends to remain is evidenced by the fact that she owns a considerable amount of property in New York.

MR. J. A. CAVE appears in the ensuing week at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, in his original character, Terence O'Moore, and his musical extravaganza, *Quarter Day*, in which he introduces his buffo and patter songs.

CRICKET, ATHLETICS, AQUATICS, ETC.

THE arrival of another Australian mail enables me to give details of the fifth, sixth, and seventh matches played at the Antipodes by the A.E.E., under the captaincy of James Lillywhite, of which I have already given cursory notice in my notes. The first of these, versus Fifteen of Victoria, resulted in a victory for the latter by 31 runs, which was principally owing to the fine batting of Horan, who scored 34 and 47 (not out), falling a victim to Charlwood in his first innings by a most magnificent catch (one-handed). Emmett, Selby, Charlwood, and Greenwood all did their utmost to avert defeat, but without avail, as their opponents scored 190 and 105 against 135 and 129. Shaw's bowling proved as destructive as usual, he getting six wickets in either innings. It should be mentioned that Jupp, through indisposition, was unable to play for England, and this no doubt had much to do with their defeat. The match against Ballarat ended in a draw, owing to want of time, the Eleven scoring 123 and 179 against 146 for the Colonials. Charlwood was in rare batting form in his second innings, and, being missed three times, scored 66 before he retired. A very easy win awaited the Eleven at Geelong, they scoring 264 in a single innings against 74 and 87, thus proving victors by an innings and 103 runs. Charlwood was again at the top of the list with 56 to his credit. Pooley contributed 39, Selby 37, Greenwood and Lillywhite 30 each. For Geelong, only one batsman made double figures—viz., J. O. Thomas (14). Shaw and Lillywhite divided the wickets of the Twenty-Two between them in their first innings, while Hill secured eight and Southerton nine in their second.

Death has taken another of the past generation of cricketers, Tom Barker, of Nottingham, dying in that town, on Friday week last at the ripe old age of 78. He was born on November 15, 1798, and was in his time a fair all-round player and an excellent bowler.

Athletics are, comparatively speaking, a dead letter, and my remarks will in consequence be but brief. At Eton the annual steeplechases came off on Saturday last, over the usual course, the distance being estimated at about three miles. Thirty-two started for the school cross-country event, and the winner turned up in Palmer, who defeated Whitfield by ten yards; Wellesley was third, and Markham fifth. Time, 18 min. 7 sec. For the junior race twenty-eight came to the post, the course in this instance was three-quarters of a mile shorter than the school race. Bourne eventually won rather easily by fifteen yards, Tennant being second, and Harford third. Time, 15 min. 6 sec. The only other event among amateurs which I need take any note of is the running of J. Gibb (L.A.C.) in the three miles open race at Cambridge in the University Handicaps last week, when, from scratch, he ran second to C. B. King (St. John's), who had 400 yards start, in the marvellously good time of 14 min. 46 sec., the winner taking 14 min. 30 3-5 sec. for three miles, less 400 yards. Should the time be correct, Gibb's performance is the best for an amateur on record, and is only 10 sec. shorter than the best professional one, viz., that by John White at Hacknew Wick, in 1863.

In the three days' walking match between Crossland and O'Leary, at the Pomona Gardens, Manchester, for £200, the Englishman was at 6 hours 22min 22sec p.m., on Saturday hailed the winner, O'Leary retiring altogether when he had covered 267 miles 7 laps. When Crossland was told he need persevere no longer, he had walked 287 miles in 69 hours 22min. 22sec. O'Leary has no cause to complain of his defeat, inasmuch as he accomplished 200 miles in the shortest time on record, viz., 46 hours 35min 30 sec, and, indeed, from the 142nd all the miles are the fastest hitherto recorded. By-the-bye a correspondent from Chester, signing himself "Spinner," has written to me with regard to a challenge which Howes lately issued, offering to walk any body any distance. "Spinner" states that Vaughan, of Chester, is willing to walk Howes. If this be the case let the men come to terms, but it is quite out of my province to take any notice of anonymous communications, or to have anything to do with paper warfare.

Only one or two football matches require any comment from me, viz.: those between England and Scotland, under the Association and Rugby rules, at Kennington Oval and at Raeburn Place, Edinburgh, on Saturday and Monday last respectively. In both matches the representatives of the thistle proved victorious, they winning in London by three goals to one, and in Edinburgh by one goal to nothing. On Monday last the Association Scotch team played Wales at Wrexham, and again proved winners by four goals to nothing.

Of course, the arrival of the Cantabs in tidal water has been the event since my last. On Monday afternoon, betwixt four and five, after preliminary "tubbing," the Eight started from the Leander R.C. hard, and, after drifting up a short way, rowed, with two eases, to Barnes. On their return they experienced "heavy weather," arriving pretty well drenched, at their starting-point. Criticism would be both invidious and misplaced at such an early stage of their practice, but this much is admissible—viz., that some of the crew, on this their first essay, appeared hardly to be quite in the boat, a defect, however, quite eradicable during the interval that remains before the eventful day. An amusing *fiasco* is noticeable in the "leader" of a well-known contemporary with reference to this, the first day's practice. The writer says:—"A good half-flood assisted them to the Aqueduct" (the crew was never within 100 yards thereof), "where they turned," &c. The tyro (?) in question then launches out on Scholarships, at Oxford and Cambridge, about which his ideas are, to say the least, hazy. Since the first row over the course, the crew have not done any heavy work, the elements being decidedly contrary, nor is there any need to hurry them, the crew being decidedly very forward in their preparation. Their practice since Monday, owing to the tide not serving, has been restricted to light work, and it is probable that they will not attempt the whole distance until next week. On Wednesday, their new boat, built by Messrs. Swaddle and Winship, of Newcastle, arrived at Putney. She is a fine specimen of a racing craft, and is built of Mexican cedar, with yellow pine fittings; she is 57 ft. in length, 22 in. beam, depth amidships 8 in., bow 7½ in., stern 6½ in. The slides are of steel, with runners of *lignum vîte*. Oxford are expected to arrive in Putney on Monday, and will, as usual, make Mr. Marshall's, the "Fox and Hounds," their head-quarters. Mr. Sherwood, their coach, has been giving them some very severe work of late, a course which has drawn upon his devoted head the denunciations of some would-be savans of the path; but Mr. Sherwood is far too good an oar, both in theory and practice, to make any error with regard to this question of work. The crew appears to be making rapid strides towards thorough fitness, and their local partisans are quite ecstatic over their merits, while the pulse of the public generally is indicated by the fact of the odds having dropped from 3 to 2 on Cambridge to evens, taken eagerly, Cambridge for choice. I must defer any further remarks until next week.

Taking up the thread of the narrative of the American handicap at the Gaiety from where I quitted it last week, I resume on Thursday, when at 3.30 J. and F. Bennett were antagonists, but, as the latter appeared completely out of gear, the ex-champion, with runs of 84 (23 spots) and 48 (8 spots), reached 319 to 247. Play then became tedious, J. Bennett ultimately amassing 45 (14 spots) and 34 (6 spots), and winning by 164 points in 50 minutes. The second ante-prandial contest was between the Champion

and L. Kilkenny, the latter leading off with 28 and smaller contributions, Cook being evidently indisposed. However, after scoring 25, the champion put on 128 (23 spots), after which effort the game flagged, until, on the score standing—Cook 291, Kilkenny 359, the former pulled up considerably with breaks of 58, 54, 33, and 25, and, Kilkenny failing to score to any effect, won by 106 points in 1 hour 12 min.

Like "giants refreshed" at 8.17 F. Shorter and T. Taylor were on the tapis, the latter opening the ball with a capital all-round 37, which Shorter "countered" with 43, and then, assisted by 23 spots, scored 80. After this, however, the play of both waxed somewhat tame. Taylor was first to make anything of note—a good all-round 47—and Shorter achieving 28. Taylor then adding 24, his opponent replied with 36, and the latter's score stood 479 to 384. Here Taylor made a fine attempt to equalise matters, but failing after scoring 49 (12 spots), Shorter scored game by 62 points in 1 hour 1 min.

The next game was looked forward to with much interest, being between S. W. Stanley and Timbrell; but, the latter being decidedly out of form, the contrast was very marked. Timbrell's first noteworthy break was 45 (14 spots), to which Stanley replied with 80 (15 spots), following this up with moderate contributions, of which the best were 41 and 46, the latter placing him over a century in advance. Still playing with determination and pluck, he scored 59 (9 spots), but, letting in Timbrell, the latter made 73 (21 spots), and 35 (10 spots), which tended to rather more roseate anticipations, destined, however, to disappoint his partisans, as Stanley immediately afterwards ran out, with 56 (12 spots), a winner by 132 points, in 50min.

Stanley was greatly fancied for the first heat on Friday, but was hardly in it with F. Bennett, who, with 24 (7 spots), 26, and 27, stood at 300 to 195, when Stanley had reached 205, the champion of Kent obtained a lead of over 200 by the medium of a grand 109, (14 and 10 spots), and ultimately ran out with an unfinished break of 66 (12 spots), winding up with a cannon, red winner, and a cannon. Time 47min.

The *crème de la crème* of the handicap was undoubtedly the ensuing heat, in which Jos. Bennett met Timbrell. Many a time did the game seem at the mercy of either, but the ex-champion's wondrous nerve, *verve*, and pluck finally landed him a winner by 33 points in 54min. Best breaks: Bennett 86 (19 spots), 62, 63 (consecutively), 51, and 36 (12 spots). Timbrell 141 (41 spots), 71 and 60 (19 spots).

Next, at 8.13 p.m., Taylor and Kilkenny appeared; but, with the exception of two fine breaks from the former of 139 (38 spots) and 60 (14 spots), nothing of note occurred till, the Yorkshireman making his best break during the game (36), Taylor went out with an unfinished 111 (1, 15, and 10 spots), a winner by 281 points, in 34 minutes.

In the following game a genuine surprise was in store for the cognoscenti, as, though Shorter had completely "smothered" J. Bennett, no one deemed him capable of making such an example of the champion, who scored but 10. Shortly after commencing, Shorter put on 165 (8, 14, and 24 spots). The champion having "made an effort," his antagonist put together 130 (37 spots), thus winning by 488 points in the good time of 22 minutes.

On Saturday afternoon, the two old antagonists, Stanley and Taylor were pitted against each other. Stanley was the first to score anything of moment, amassing 134 (43 spots); then, from 304, running out with 136 (43 spots), in 22min by 330 points, scoring 312 out of 350 from the spot.

F. Bennett v. L. Kilkenny calls for but little comment, as the former with breaks of 88 (18 and 9 spots), 40 (all round), and 111 (35 spots), won by 239 points in 35min. Kilkenny's best effort being 98 (26 spots).

Shorter and Timbrell commenced the evening play. When the game stood Timbrell 172, Shorter 228, the Liverpudlian played a magnificent 150 (46 spots), Shorter responding with 40 (10 spots), 70 (22 spots) 24, 23, 36, and 27. Won, in 47 min, by 98 points.

The Champion and ex-champion concluded this evening's entertainment. Bennett reached 400 to 100 by 115 (33 spots), 33 (5 spots), and 72 (15 spots). Cook responded with 42, 98 (22 spots) and 78 (10 spots), but when Bennett had reached 473, he ran out of the balls, winning by 130 points.

On Monday Stanley and Kilkenny were the first exponents, and the latter at first led, breaks of 40, 41, and 57 (11 spots), placing him well ahead. Stanley then scoring 94 (28 spots), and 152 (47 spots), ultimately won, by 33 points, in 58 min.

Cook's and Timbrell's contest was almost void of interest, the latter winning by 339 points in 39min. His best breaks being 132 (44 spots), 44, and 66; while Cook's were 36 (10 spots), 32 (7 spots), and 32.

During the contest between Shorter and F. Bennett on Monday evening a slight *contretemps* occurred, the red ball being touched by the assistant marker while in transitus; it was, however, replaced, and Bennett went on with his break, which amounted to 165 (55 spots). Shorter, when a long way in the rear, missed several simple shots, and Bennett ran out from 424 with a break of 76 (24 spots), winning by 242 points in 39min.

The concluding game of this evening, T. Taylor v. J. Bennett, was very one-sided, Taylor, after a bad beginning, ran up 186 (60 spots), and ultimately won by 190 points, in 52min., Bennett's best break being 76.

On Tuesday afternoon, F. Bennett and Timbrell were the first to enter the arena, the latter commencing with 38, 65, and 55 got to 311 to 228, when Bennett put on 62. After a few insignificant breaks, F. Bennett played magnificently for 119 (11 and 20 spots), and eventually won by 86 points, in 48 min.

The next game, between F. Shorter and S. W. Stanley, was naturally considered the *crux* of the handicap, as, if Shorter won he had landed first prize, whereas in case Stanley were victorious the result was still open. The latter made the first important move 82 (25 spots) to which Shorter responded with a sweet 128 (35 spots). Misses were frequent and judicious, but, when Stanley had reached 291 to Shorter's 337 the latter ran out, with a magnificent 153, (47 spots) a winner by 210 points, in 36min.

In the game between J. Bennett and L. Kilkenny the former had things pretty much his own way, and finally won by 173 points, scoring 134, (34 spots) 89, (27 spots) and 47; Kilkenny, who played well all round, scored 53, 41, and 31.

The concluding game of the handicap—that between the champion and Taylor—was distinguished by the magnificent form of the latter, while Cook was, as throughout, clearly out of the hunt. Taylor won with consummate ease by 225 points, scoring 135 (23 spots), 66 (19 spots), 36, 26, and 24. Cook realised but 76 (22 spots) and 19 as his best contributions.

Independent of the wishes of a dictatorial contemporary, my special correspondent telegraphs me that the inter-University billiard matches will be played at Oxford, in accordance with the arrangement arrived at last year, when they took place at Cambridge. The committee for arranging this contest might well ask the contemporary alluded to:—"Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?"

EXON.

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.—From Mr. Earle, M.P.S., 22, Market Place, Hull.—"Your Wafers are invaluable for the Voice, Throat, and Chest. All sufferers from Bronchitis, Hacking Cough, and deprivation of rest should take them." Sold by all druggists, at 1s. 1d. and 4s. 6d. per box.—[ADVR.]

WHY do amateur vocalists attempt such losty vocal abominations as the Zingara song, to the detriment of their own voices and other people's ears? This song, from the lips of a very pretty creature in pink, sent us in terror from an amateur concert on Monday last. If lady amateurs will go into the Zingara line, let "Zingari bouquet" be sent to them, by the silent eloquence of which their admirers will be retained, and not sent away.



SKETCHES FROM THE COMPTON BENEFIT PERFORMANCE.



SKETCHES FROM THE HORSE SHOW AT GLASGOW.

REVIEWS.

Russia. By D. MACKENZIE WALLACE, M.A. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.—[First Notice.]

We are by no means surprised to find that this admirable work has passed into a third edition. The carefully digested chronicle of a six years' sojourn in a country to which at the present moment so many eyes are anxiously turned, possesses an interest beyond that which attaches to a merely entertaining journal of travel. It is a political text-book of the first class. Eminently attractive to the casual reader by reason of the lucidly picturesque and pleasantly humorous style of the writer, it is at the same time a work which every European statesman, journalist, or special correspondent ought to be familiar with, in order to properly comprehend the complex conditions of a vast realm which at any moment may become the basis of warlike operations of an unprecedentedly gigantic character. Mr. Wallace arrived for the first time in St. Petersburg in March, 1870. His intention was to spend merely a few months in Russia, but he unexpectedly found so many interesting subjects of study that he remained until December, 1875. During that period his winters were spent for the most part in St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Yaroslaff, whilst the summer months were generally spent in wandering about the country and collecting information from the local authorities, landed proprietors, merchants, priests, and peasantry. Some idea will be formed of the magnitude of the task accomplished by Mr. Wallace, when we enumerate the heads of the subjects dealt with in the nineteen chapters which comprise the first volume of this exhaustive work. "Travelling in Russia," "In the Northern Forest," "Voluntary Exile," "The Village Priest," "A Medical Consultation," "A peasant family of the old type," "The Peasantry of the North," the "Mir, or Village Community," "How the Commune has been preserved, and what it is to effect in the future," "Finnish and Tartar Villages," "The Towns and the mercantile classes," "Lord Novgorod the Great," "The Imperial administration and the officials," "The new local self government," "Landed proprietor of the old school," "Proprietors of the modern school," "The Noblesse," "Social Classes," and "Among the Heretics," represent a comprehensive programme enough, and when we come to know that the fulfilment thereof is in the last degree thorough, and to remember that that long list of subjects only represents half of the ground covered by Mr. Wallace's survey, our appreciation of the intrepid traveller defies adequate expression. A singularly commendable feature in the book is its independent tone. There was every temptation in the path of Mr. Wallace to borrow from the observations of others, in order to flavour his own, but from first to last, aided, of course, by experts, who have furnished him with abundant materials otherwise unattainable, he has seen and judged for himself.

In a future notice we shall have an opportunity of accompanying Mr. Wallace on his fascinating tour through Russia, meantime as far as our space will allow, we may make one or two excerpts from his pages to show his method. Speaking of the railway system in Russia, he says the railway map of that country "presents to the tactician much that is quite unintelligible to the ordinary observer—a fact that will become apparent to the uninitiated as soon as a war breaks out in Eastern Europe. Russia is no longer what she was in the days of the Crimean War, when troops and stores had to be conveyed hundreds of miles by the most primitive means of transport. At that time she had only about 750 miles of railway. Now she has more than 11,000 miles, and every year new lines are constructed." It is also a significant fact, which has a timely application, that the "water communication has likewise in recent years been greatly improved. On all the principal rivers there are now tolerably good steamers." Railway travelling, even in the depth of winter, is less uncomfortable than might be imagined, albeit the rate of speed attained by the trains is unsatisfactory to English and American travellers. The natural roads in Russia at any time of the year would appear to be rather worse to negotiate than a corduroy road in the middle of the wet season in the most primitive part of America. Nature is left to herself, and a pretty mess she makes of it. Conservative as Russia is, a change is gradually coming over the hotel life of the country, which would seem to herald the advent of a better, if a dearer, state of things. At present in good hotels of the genuine Russian type "there are certain peculiarities which, though not in themselves objectionable, strike a foreigner as peculiar." If you engage a bed, you do not necessarily engage bed-linen, pillows, and bolsters. Consequently, if you have neglected to provide yourself with those adjuncts to sleeping accommodation, the landlord's bill for extras is safe to assume appalling proportions. If you have been on the road before, you will carry your own tea. The scenery visible from a railway train is for the most part dismal, and the banks of the navigable rivers afford occupation of a scarcely pleasanter character to the traveller in search of the picturesque. The bridges are principally mantraps of the direst kind. If cleanliness is considered next to Godliness in Russia, the natives are unhappy in the way they manifest their piety. One at least of the plagues of Egypt has taken firm hold of Russia, and Waterton's horror, the Hanoverian rat, is an abiding institution, especially on board of the river steamers. These and other interesting facts we have gleaned on what may be termed the threshold of this excellent book. In another notice we shall find that the interesting promise of the opening chapters are fully realised further on.

Celebrities I have Known, with Episodes Political, Social, Sporting, and Theatrical. By LORD WILLIAM PITTE LENNOX. London: Hurst and Blackett.

THE author of this collection of very amusing facts and anecdotes is a younger son of the fourth Duke of Richmond, and godson of the great statesman, William Pitt; and when we add that he was one of the late Duke of Wellington's staff at the great Battle of Waterloo, our readers will readily enough conceive the rich store of personal recollections which such a writer may command. To that store the volumes before us are devoted, and although much of their contents have been reprinted from magazine papers and from similar works to the present, by the same author, now out of print, such as "Fifty Years of Biographical Remembrances," published by Hurst and Blackett, in 1863; a volume called, "Merrie England, its Sports and Pastimes," issued by Newby, in 1853, and others, yet the improved arrangement and classification of subjects now adopted give the present most entertaining volumes many advantages over their predecessors. Lord Lennox, diverging abruptly, after a fashion he has, from some anecdotes of his school-boy days, tells the following interesting story of the late Shirley Brooks:

"Amongst other charges brought against me by the critic of the *Morning Chronicle*, was that I had brought one of our most sacred and religious institutions into ridicule by a most irreverent allusion to it. Of course, some d—d good-natured friend forwarded me the paper; and knowing that all I had to do was to grin and bear it, I resigned myself to my fate. Time passed on, when one day at the Garrick Club, finding I was dining alone, Shirley Brooks prepared to join me. The conversation towards the close of the evening turned upon the *Morning Chronicle*, when I remarked that I firmly believed a familiar friend, mentioning his name, had treacherously abused me behind my back, after congratulating me on the success of the novel.

"It is hard," replied Shirley Brooks, "that your friend should be falsely accused; he was not the author of that criticism."

"I rejoice to hear it," I replied, "for I have made up my mind if I meet him to cut him—."

"Painful as it is to me," he continued, "but sooner than the innocent should suffer for the guilty—I wrote the article."

"I own this took me somewhat aback: when my companion continued:

"I thought at the time that it was a fair criticism, but our mutual friend, Peter Cunningham, told me I had gone too far; will you then accept my apology, for knowing you much better than I did when I wrote the criticism, I regret that I have caused you any pain."

"By the aid of a glass of Garrick punch I gulped this down, and merely said, 'in future':

Be to my virtues very kind,
And to my failings very blind.'

"From that time we became better friends than ever, for I could not but be sensible of the honourable feeling that prompted him to come forward to save another, even at his own expense." Lord Lennox continues:

"Although I am aware that I lay myself open to a charge of egotism, in referring to the letters of thanks I have received from many distinguished authors whose works I have criticised, I cannot refrain from so doing. The first on the list is a letter from Winwood Read, who thanks me for my kind review of 'his much-abused book.' Mark Lemon sends me his 'big book and his little one,' with best acknowledgments for my notice of them. Edward Maitland writes, 'The remarks on By-and-Bye are capital, indicating both perception and ease, and suggesting the need of thoughtfully reading to get at the author's meaning; instead of jumping at once to the conclusion that what the reviewer does not catch in his haste must therefore be devoid of meaning.' George Raymond is warm in my praise for my notice of his 'Life of Ellison,' as are Mayne Reid, Charles Clarke, Albany Fonblanque, Mrs. C. Mathews, mother of the ever-green ever-delightful Charles; J. Palgrave Simpson, M. H. Barker, Shirley Brooks, John Mills, R. Dalton Barham, son of 'Ingoldsby,' Sydney Whiting, Theodore Hook, Gronow, Leveson, the 'Old Shekaree,' Byng Hall, A. Hayward, Albert Smith, William Selwyn, D.D., W. Mackinnon, late M.P. for Lymington, who says, 'Laudare a laudato viro is always peculiarly agreeable to the sons of humanity in every age,' Rev. A. Morton Brown, &c.; while I have many notes from authoresses written in the prettiest handwriting, their thanks expressed in the most glowing terms."

Chapter IV. (vol. II.) is devoted to reminiscences of George Colman, "whose wit," says Lord Lennox, quoting Moore, "in the combat as gentle as bright,

N'er carried a heart-stain away on its blade."

A pretty conceit, hardly perhaps justified by facts. By-the-by, the story his lordship tells of the *fanatico per la musica*, who wound up his extravagant eulogies of an amateur vocalist by saying, "that song quite carries me away," whereupon Colman earnestly asked somebody to whistle it, has been told of the late Douglas Jerrold, by his son Blanchard, thereby illustrating the truth of our author's comment. "I have often thought that there ought to be a register office for jokes and *bon mots*. Some of the wittiest sayings, after going the round of society, are immediately attributed to the wit of the day, and many have fallen to the share of Jekyll, George Colman, Theodore Hook, and Lords Norbury and Alvanley, all of whom were guiltless of perpetrating them." Lord Lennox takes the public very completely into his confidence, and narrates not a few anecdotes of delicate situations and curious adventures, one of which we cannot deny ourselves the privilege of reproducing:

"During the time I was an *attaché* to the late Duke of Wellington, in Paris, in 1814, Grassini was a constant visitor at the Hôtel Borghese, at that time occupied by the first English ambassador, after the restoration of Louis XVIII. to the throne of France. A curious adventure happened to me connected with this gifted lady. Meeting her so often at my chief's, and knowing the influence she had over him, for she kindly got me out of one or two boyish scrapes, I became most intimate with her, and occasionally paid her a morning visit at her beautifully furnished apartments on the Boulevard de Italiens. One afternoon, having called upon her with a message from the Duke and Duchess, inviting her to dine with them the following day to meet another talented artist in his way, Anacreon Moore, who had unexpectedly arrived in Paris, I was startled by a loud altercation in the ante-room, evidently proceeding from an enraged Frenchman and my hostess's *femme de chambre*.

"*Monsieur le Général, je vous assure que Madame, est indisposée, elle souffre beaucoup, mais peut être qu'elle voudrait vous voir.*'

"*C'est bien, j'ai su qu'elle était à l'Opéra hier soir.*'

"*C'est vrai, Monsieur le Général, mais Madame est entré fort malade.*'

"In the meantime Grassini seemed dreadfully put out. 'It's that jealous monster the General,' she said, 'who is always taunting me about this kind duke; if he meets you here he will be furious. Stay, I must hide you until he has left.'

"Being young" (his lordship was born in 1799), "and thrice armed from the fact that I had done nothing to cause any hostile feeling, I proposed to meet and beat the roaring lion; but she would not hear of such a proposition, so hurrying me behind a large china jar which stood before the windows, and enveloping it partly with the muslin curtains, 'Thérèse,' she said in a loud but rather tremulous voice, 'you may show the General in, my head feels better.'

Breathless I remained as this distinguished warrior stalked through the room. What occurred during the interview I know not; but as this Parisian Othello took his leave, I overheard words not very flattering to 'ce due de Vellanton.' No sooner did the outward door bang than I was emancipated from my hiding-place, thankful that I had escaped detection, for a cartel to meet the General the following morning, with a second and a brace of pistols, in the Bois de Boulogne would have probably been the result!"

Some of the theatrical stories in the second volume we recognise as old friends, the original tellers of which ought, however, we think, in fairness to have been named. We are sorely tempted to continue our extracts from such pleasant chatty and lively volumes, pre-eminently quotable as they are; but for want of space must, perforce, refrain. Hazlitt used to describe Northcote's conversation as "picture-talking," because it was so full of anecdotes and illustrative allusion; in the same way and for the same reason these agreeable volumes of Lord William's might be described as picture-writing.

The Practical Kennel Guide, by GORDON STABLES, M.D., C.M., R.N. (London, Paris, and New York: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin).—There is abundant room for a good book on dogs, notwithstanding the works of Richardson, Youatt, "Stonehenge," and a few minor authors. The need of a good "practical kennel guide" is the more conspicuous from the failure of this last attempt to supply the deficiency. Dr. Gordon Stables is evidently unfitted for the task which he handles with such flippancy and unbounded egotism. "I myself" is a favourite form of the writer in asserting his individuality, the fact of whose existence cannot be doubted by anyone who reads the novel

pages of this little volume. He says the information given is "of a nature quite unique," and we are certainly not prepared to deny him the privilege of such an assertion. The work is altogether unique—unique in language and tone, in superficial treatment of its subject, and above all in the author's exalted opinion of his own ability and profound knowledge of all matters relating to his favourite animal, the dog.

It was of course impossible that a gentleman, who has for many years been a breeder and exhibitor of dogs—one who has acted in the capacity of "representative of many influential journals," and has "had to submit to the usual amount of 'button-holing' by men who wanted my opinion about their dogs"—could write a book of 200 pages without giving occasionally sound, if not original, advice to novices. But when he flatters himself (p. 38) that in the chapters of this book "there will be found matter which the older and more advanced student of caniology may read with some degree of profit," we fear he sets too high a value on his services. Possibly he suspects that two pages occupied with receipts for making oatmeal porridge and "brose"—beginning with the stale joke, "First buy your meal"—is profitable reading. We do not.

The descriptions of the various breeds of dogs, their origin, and uses, are, on the whole, correct, but are scattered throughout the book, and require arrangement and condensation. The best part of the work—and this is by no means high praise—are the chapters relating to the skeleton of the dog, the management of the stud dog, and the erection and arrangement of kennels. A few of the illustrations are fairly executed, others are indifferent. The drawing of greyhounds at page 38 is very poor: the black and white must be a perfect brute in his running.

Chapter III. contains a list of words and phrases used in the fancy, with their meanings. This might have been made useful to the young dog-breeder, but it is a sad medley of plain words that require no explanation, of fanciful terms (of the author's own manufacture, we presume), and of absurd incomplete definitions. Here are a few:—*Cat-footed*—having a foot like a cat. *Comb-fringe*—the beautiful straight fringe of feather that drops from the tail of a setter. *Fixed*—means astonished. Judges are fixed by some particularly and rarely-bred dogs. *Kissing-spots*—the spots on the cheeks of some toys and others; as the mole on the cheek of the Pug. *Pig-jawed*—having jaws in the formation of a pig. Applied to Setters when the upper jaw protrudes.

In conclusion, it is strange to find a writer who places the letters M.D. after his name, saying that confinement and want of exercise bring about a state of health which "*directly favours the production of spontaneous rabies*" [The italics are the author's], and that the "biggest, fattest, most stupid-looking pup" in a litter "is more liable to have distemper, and have it in a bad form," adding "this I have repeatedly seen proved."

Still more astonishing is it to find a medical gentleman recommending the owner of dogs to throw the straw from the kennel into the pigsty after it has been soiled—a dangerous practice, and one of the readiest means of propagating loathsome internal parasites in the flesh of the pig, and thereby communicable to man.

We may add that we had a right to expect from a person of such qualifications as Dr. Gordon Stables, in a work bearing the ambitious title of "The Practical Kennel Guide" some details respecting the treatment of diseases in dogs. Considering, however, that his knowledge of canine rabies and distemper is so limited, and his principles of sanitation are so unsound, it is a matter for congratulation that he has refrained from thus far taxing the patience and credulity of readers of this book.

Honour; an Original Comedy in Three Acts. By R. J. REED. London: S. French.—A good acting play, originally produced in the December of last year, at the Tyne Theatre and Opera House, Newcastle-on-Tyne, under the management of Mr. George Stanley. The characters are distinct and strongly marked, the scenes and situations "tell," and the plot supplies sufficient incident to keep an audience interested in its progress. The first act drags a little, and would probably gain by a little judicious condensation of the opening dialogue.

John Lillywhite's Cricketer's Companion for 1877.—The thirty-third edition of the above well-known "companion" has appeared. Amongst its varied contents we note "Cricket and Cricketers in 1876" by the editor, is a resumé of the principal events of the past season. "Cricket faults and fallacies" by "an Old Blue" have been treated in a very able manner, more particularly the vexed question as to the distinction between a "gentleman" and a "player." "An Old Blue" suggests some hard and fast rules as a remedy. "Old Fashions versus New," by Frederick Gale, and "Public Schools' Cricket" by P. M. Thornton, are interesting and well-written articles. "Hints on the game," by the late John Lillywhite have been wisely introduced in this—the thirty-third edition. "The Hints" were written and published in the "Companion" several years since, and have been the means of instilling into youthful minds some knowledge of the rudiments of the game. There is also an article "Wandering Cricket" by "A Cantab," together with bowling and batting averages, cricket curiosities, Mr. W. G. Grace's doings, &c., reviews of the county, M.C.C., University, Public Schools, and other matches in 1876, &c. Altogether it is really and truly "a cricketer's companion and guide."

A Practical Guide to Private Theatricals. By AN OLD STAGER. London: Thomas Scott.—This is a useful little book for those who are "getting up" private theatrical performances, and wish for a few hints on the subject of stage management, scene-painting, making costumes, properties, &c.

May's British and Irish Press Guide, 1877, is as usual full of valuable information, carefully compiled, although it strikes us as odd that under the heading "Illustrated Newspapers" we find all the weekly pictorial papers, excepting one—*The Graphic*.

WE notice with satisfaction the third edition of Mr. W. F. Wilkinson's useful treatise on "Modern Athletics," a work replete with valuable information on training for, and management of, all sorts of sports, both on the cinder-path and its accessories; and containing besides copious statistics, most interesting both to those who are themselves practical athletes, and also to the disciples of the *dolce far niente* school. His hints on training for every branch of athletics are valuable from their conciseness and clearness, and from his manifest acquaintance—practical and theoretical—with this topic. As regards the potable portion of his scale of dietary for the trainee, we may be allowed, perhaps, one remark; while fully endorsing his opinion of the inestimable merits of "Clicquot's Dog," which is, that it is not within the reach of most athletes. On the question of locality for training, too, exception might be taken to the expression, "any country place which is healthy, and lies high." These two strictures are, however, about all that could be advanced; and the brochure is throughout eminently readable, reliable, and interesting.

Mr. JOHN T. CARRINGTON has been appointed resident naturalist to the Royal Aquarium Society, Westminster, in place of Mr. W. Saville Kent. Mr. Carrington has for the last year been studying aquarium management with Mr. W. Alford Lloyd, at the Crystal Palace Aquarium.

TURFIANA.

THE issue of a new volume of the "Stud Book," announced by Messrs. Weatherby to be ready in April, is urgently needed, and we question whether it would not be good policy to shorten the intervals of production from four to three years. In former times, fresh editions were as uncertain in their appearance as comets, but then, perhaps, we had more walking pedigreeists in those days, and those who went on the happy-go-lucky principle took their chance with even more delicious uncertainty than at present. We consider that the compilers of this equine peerage are as fully entitled to take "labor et ingenium" for their motto as ever were Royal Academicians, for no one who has not tried his hand at the compilation of this *magnum opus* of Burlington-street can be aware of the amount of diligent research and patient labour required to render their book of reference correct and reliable. The "Stud Book" is, indeed, a marvel of accuracy, when we take into consideration the everlasting chops and changes in ownership of brood mares, and the carelessness and ignorance of many into whose hands they come. In particular, the gentleman who undertakes the revision of that apocryphal portion of the volume which relates to Ireland, must find his office no sinecure, for, by a perusal of its contents, alliances in that fortunate island seem to be cemented on chance principles "entirely," and all sorts of fearful and wonderful sires are brought into requisition. But it is high time that we possessed some fresh sources of information, for in many cases it is important to ascertain the success or failure of recent produce, and we have been compelled to leap in the dark, so to speak, for nearly a year. The amount of correspondence required to ensure correctness must be something fabulous, when there is so large a floating population to be accounted for, and therefore we ought, perhaps, to be thankful for the information placed in our hands, without repining at the natural unwillingness to undertake the task ostener than is actually required for carrying on a business ever on the increase.

After the utterances of Lords Falmouth and Ailesbury on the reciprocity question, the Master of the Horse comes upon the scene, and it is refreshing to find the subject discussed in so calm, dignified, and patient a manner, by men who clearly have the Turf's best interests at heart, and who write untrammeled by all those petty considerations of self, which have heretofore spoiled many a good cause. Lord Bradford may be said to follow on the side of his predecessor in office, but writes mainly to put the public right as regards Queen's Plates, concerning the objects and sources of which much misapprehension has arisen among her Majesty's liege subjects. There is one sentence in his letter, the cosmopolitan spirit of which will be warmly applauded by racing optimists. Lord Bradford writes, "But it must be remembered that racing is a popular sport; it is supported by various classes, and should, therefore, be made to suit various tastes." An admirable sentiment, indeed, as applied to the popularity of sport; but surely his lordship does not go so far as to admit the desirability of support by the classes which at present seem bent upon lowering instead of elevating the so-called national pastime; and it might reasonably be argued from the above extract that, in the writer's opinion, encouragement should be given to racing, even in its lowest grades. The concluding sentence of Lord Bradford's letter we have anticipated a long time since; and the truths contained therein are so obvious, that we wonder how it could have entered the head of any thinking man to suppose that Englishmen could avail themselves of open races in foreign countries when their hands were so fully occupied at home. All this public discussion, however, on the eve of such important issues being brought before the grand Turf council, is eminently useful in enabling us to view the case in all its various aspects; and from various indications it is not difficult to perceive that the agitation will end in having given umbrage to foreign patrons of our racing, without having altered in any way the relations now existing between us.

Verily, other influences besides those of the stars in their courses have been fighting against mine host of the Welsh Harp this winter, and it would seem as if circumstances perversely combined to render his meetings as unsatisfactory as even the "Resident" himself could wish. The weather and the sport at Kingsbury last Saturday were enough to wrinkle with care the jovial face of Mr. Warner, and to lead to a contemplation of suicide in his own reservoir. Nothing could be more dispiriting than the dismal uninteresting contests among insignificant fields of obscure platters which occupied the afternoon, and this after that tremendous flourish of trumpets with which the meeting was proclaimed in certain quarters. The much vaunted "Upper Ten" steeplechase on Monday was a sad misnomer, and it really appears that this class of meetings will languish and expire of sheer inanition, without the aid of that relentless "Knife which is always in" their flanks from the hand of the peevish licensed victualler of the Strand. The proximity of Exeter Hall must surely have something to do with all this crusade against suburban racing, and among other May meetings at that temple of cant, might be arranged one on the "Bulgarian atrocity indignation" principle to protest against the objects of Mr. Haxell's aversion. By the way it is a caution to observe how the "unmasked assassin" is set upon by his enemies at every fresh attempt to traduce the sport at Kingsbury, for no sooner does he put pen to paper on the subject than the whole pack of scribes rush furiously on their prey, worrying him at every turn, and yelping round him like curs round a hedge hog. No one has so thoroughly spoiled a plausible case by exaggeration and overstrained sentiment, and the opposition have decidedly the best of him when it comes to quoting precedents in horse breeding and selling. It is quite a case of "pull devil pull baker," and poor Mr. Warner must pray most fervently to be delivered alike from his uncompromising foemen and the still more injudicious partisanship of many friends.

Last week we spoke of Rob Roy's Derby chance, without giving his backers much hope in that quarter, and we have now to deal with an equally "impossible" horse, the flatcatcher Warren Hastings, who, however, occupies in the quotations a place more in accordance with his pretensions than the flashy son of Blair Athol. Warren Hastings is a magnificently topped colt, and cut out unlike his sire Citadel in this respect, but he cannot pass muster below, for not only is he light of bone in proportion to the weight above, but his feet are no larger than a donkey's, and in addition they are shelly and brittle, so that on hard ground he seems bound to go to pieces. For the Two Thousand his fine speed may bring him home in the first flight, should the going be good, but it is a horse to a hen against him for the Derby, seeing that none of the Citadels have shown staying powers, though more than one has played the cutting down game to perfection in his two-year-old days. The Monk occupies a similarly false position, for it was obvious at Doncaster that he only beat Chamant and Shillelagh on sufferance, having been ridden out to the end. He bears no sort of resemblance to his unfortunate relative Holy Friar (who had better looks and action to recommend him), but we shall be very much surprised if he has not a weak spot in his frame of much the same nature as that which stopped for ever the "parson's" horse. We should be afraid to look in the face the figures at which the Monk, Polydorus, and others of the Kingsclere Derby team passed into Mr. Gretton's hands, but it is certain that never were a worse lot paid for through the nose, and John Porter must sigh

for "one hour" of Blue Gown, "Rosi," or Pero in the degenerate days upon which his lot has fallen. The Monk is a nicely bred horse enough, by Hermit out of a Thormanby mare, and it is a fact worth bearing in mind by breeders, that the in grafting of Touchstone upon Pantaloan has succeeded in more cases than one, and it is partly on this account that mares by Thormanby are coming so much into request, even though most of them (as we have previously brought to the notice of our readers) are not so well formed about the feet as could be wished.

It seems very late in the breeding season for owners of mares not yet to have made up their minds as to suitable sires; but this dilatoriness can surely be the only reason for finding so many of our expensive stallions still with a few vacancies on their lists. Adventurer still wants a couple to make up his number, which is always strictly limited; and we rather wonder at the owner of Laura preferring Cathedral to the Sheffield Lane horse. Galopin is another "crack," who does not seem to secure his complement; but then we have always considered Prince Bathyan's champion rather an over-rated animal, and there are many reasonable enough to doubt his staying powers, but giving his owner all credit for his timely withdrawal from the Turf. Rosicrucian has lingered longer among the "great unfilled" than usual, despite a really good return for 1876; but we hardly expect to find him advertised again, and some very good mares have gone to him at Pulborough, where Paganini is announced as full. Parmesan and Cremorne, *père et fils*, at Rufford, are both still open to engagements, and one of the reasons for the former having been so far comparatively neglected, is that he gets a great proportion of fillies, which have hitherto been, with the exception of Modena, most indifferent performers. The fiery little brown, too, is not in the highest repute as a foal-getter, and like many other stallions with this suspicion attaching to them, is responsible for too many pairs of twins. The great Sterling is another which hangs fire, but we take it he only wants a smart youngster or two to set him going like wildfire, as he combines good looks and high reputation in an extraordinary degree, and was always a great public favourite. From what we saw of his stock at Doncaster, the worst point appears to lie in their oddly-formed pasterns, a defect not so conspicuous in their sire as in grand sire and great grandsire. There is the usual admixture of "incapables" in the Weatherby broadsheet, and we regret that St. Albans has met with an accident of a sufficiently serious nature to restrict his labours of love this spring.

The success of Croydon, genuine so far as it went, was all crowded into the first day, and many ran down just to see the big hurdle race, quite an Aaron's rod in its way, inasmuch as it effectively smothered the interest of the minor stakes, two of which fell through ignominiously, while the rest did not rise above "Kingsbury form." After the flaming accounts afloat concerning Ingomar, which induced us to recommend him, his appearance was eminently disappointing, and it was admitted on all sides that he was not half the horse we saw compass the destruction of his opponents so easily last year. Nor was "old Ebor" ever formidable, seeming to lack pace, and Scamp, after the semblance of a struggle, had it all his own way at last, thus adding another to the long list of victories achieved by the head of affairs at Pitt Place, and proving that sound practical knowledge must and will be served in the long run. The Goodwood Stakes seem productive of accomplished timber topers, Hampton and Scamp, to wit, and hereafter we shall hear of more whilom cracks combining the flat and hurdle business. Woodcock, appropriately named enough for the work he has taken to so kindly, ran a thoroughly good horse, but no one dreamed of Lottery, on behalf of which, at the moment he seemed to have the best of it, a cry went up from the ring as of those who rejoice over a skinned lamb, but it was not to be, and Sir John Astley's will not be the first Scamp who has been the cause of lamentation and empty pockets. His owner seemed vastly pleased, and we would suggest that, in consideration of his good fortune, the burly baronet should sign an armistice with the touts, who could not, on this occasion, have interfered with his little game. The comparative failure of the meeting to sustain the glories of its opening day is not sufficiently apparent, unless we attribute it to the "plethora of racing" which is said to prevail to the prejudice of sport in general. Horses may come and go, but they cannot go on for ever, like the mechanical hare, the principle of which might be applied with benefit to horse racing in certain localities, where the same dreary round of battered crocks and screws is everlasting paraded—a dismal parody on improved horseflesh.

Now that Croydon is over, the ground is pretty well cleared for the Lincoln Handicap and Liverpool Grand National, concerning the latter of which we never knew the betting so utterly dull and uninteresting in any previous year. Much as we are accustomed to hear of the rapid strides which cross-country sports are making in public estimation, no sooner is the first note of preparation for the legitimate racing campaign sounded than the flags are deserted for the flat, and some real life and motion is imported into those stagnant waters which have so long defied enlivening influences. Throughout the piece we have not wavered in our allegiance to Lollypop, Bruce, and Grassendale, and although the last-named has gone over to the majority, we shall be well contented to stand by our original choices. We are not disposed to attach very much significance to the recent "buckets-in-a-well" movements of Blanton's lot, and despite the long price paid for Midlothian, we cannot, with Doncaster in our recollection, afford to overlook the great chance which Lollypop must possess—particularly in case the ground should continue in its present sticky state. Thorn will also be well-suited in this respect, and we are half inclined to take him, *vice* Grassendale, deceased, but the old horse invariably runs better as the season advances, and has hitherto shown in his best colours towards the back end. Petrarch is said to be in the sale list, though reports vary as to the price set upon his emancipation from the labours of training; but whatever the figure demanded may be, we should, like Mr. Gladstone, think thrice before running the risk of degrading him from a prince to a plater, by the chance of an ignominious upset at Lincoln. The tide of glory with him is now at its flood, and all his little eccentricities of temper and in and out running will be forgotten and forgiven readily enough, if he is wisely allowed to retire upon his laurels. There is no better bred nor finer shaped horse in training, and it would be a thousand pities to see so grand a specimen of the thoroughbred messed about in handicaps, until no one can be found to have pity upon the fallen mighty one, and the foreigners willingly take him off our hands.

SKYLARK.

CAPTAIN F. J. S. FOLJAMBE, M.P. for East Retford, master of the Burton hunt, is suffering from a severe accident. He was thrown from his horse while out with his hounds and sustained a fracture of the collar bone. The hon. gentleman is however, doing as well as can be expected.

CARDINAL, ECRU, AND TWENTY-FOUR OTHER COLOURS.—JUDSON'S DYES are most useful and effectual. Ribbons, Scarves, Jackets, Table-covers, &c., &c., are easily dyed in ten minutes. Ask for JUDSON'S DYES, at Chemists and Stationers. Price Sixpence per bottle.—[ADVT.]

LAMPLUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE.—HAVE IT IN YOUR HOUSES, AND USE NO OTHER; this alone is the true antidote in Fevers, Eruptive Affections, Sea or Bilious Sickness, having peculiar and exclusive merits. For the protection of the public against fraudulent imitations I have applied for and again obtained a perpetual injunction, with costs, against a defendant. Observe the GENUINE has my NAME and TRADE MARK on a BUFF-COLOURED WRAPPER.—113, Holborn-hill London.—[ADVT.]

PRINCIPAL RACES PAST.

CROYDON MEETING.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6.

A STEEPLECHASE SWEEPSTAKES of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, with 100 added. About three miles. Six subs. Mr. I'Anson, jun.'s Moortown, by Caterer—Iphiigenia, aged, 1st, 1lb (£100). Levitt, walk d over for the forfeits.

The STEWARDS' STEEPLECHASE PLATE of 200 sovs. About two miles and a half.

Mr. J. Johnson's Rufina, by Lawyer—Romance, aged, 1st (in 7lb ex)

S. Daniels 1 Captain D. Lane's Flintlock, 5 yrs, 1st 5lb Mr. Fredericks 2

Mr. J. Nightingall's Chief Ranger, aged, 1st 10lb R. I'Anson 3

Also ran: Birdcatcher, aged, 1st 7lb; Sparrow, aged, 1st; Moselle, 5 yrs, 1st, 7lb; Idle Girl, aged, 1st 2lb; Tankerville, 5 yrs, 1st.

Betting: 9 to 4 agst Birdcatcher, 3 to 1 agst Rufina, 7 to 1 agst Moselle.

A SELLING HURDLE-RACE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added. One mile and a half, over six flights.

Captain Machell's Spartacus, by Gladiateur—Rose of Kent, 4 yrs, 1st 10lb (£50) Jewitt 1

Mr. Thomas Steven's Plebeian, 4 yrs, 1st 10lb (£50) Davis 2

Mr. A. Yates's Pick-me-up, 6 yrs, 1st 10lb (£50) Owner 3

Also ran: Lalage, 4 yrs, 1st 9lb (£50); Helsthorpe, 6 yrs, 1st 10lb (£50); Blue Bull, 5 yrs, 1st 7lb (£50); Peggy, aged, 1st 10lb (£50); Susannah (late Microscope), 5 yrs, 1st 7lb (£50).

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Spartacus, 5 to 2 agst Blue Bull, 6 to 1 agst Lalage, 10 to 1 each agst Plebeian and Helsthorpe, 12 to 1 each agst Peggy and Susannah. Won in a canter by three lengths; half a length between second and third; and Lalage was fourth.

The GRAND INTERNATIONAL HANDICAP HURDLE-RACE of 25 sovs each, 10 ft, with 50 added; the second received 100 sovs out of the stakes; winners extra. Two miles and a quarter, over nine flights.

Fifty-nine subs.

Sir J. D. Astley's Camp, by The Rake—Lady Sophie, 6 yrs, 1st 11lb

J. Adams 1 Sir J. L. Kaye's Lottery, 4 yrs, 1st 13lb W. Reeves 2

Lord Dupplin's Woodcock, 5 yrs, 1st 10lb Jones 2

Mr. Ennis's Ingomar, 5 yrs, 1st 12lb Doucic 0

Mr. T. J. Clifford's Sir Hugh, 5 yrs, 1st 11lb Lawrence 0

Mr. Gomm's Innishowen, 4 yrs, 1st 9lb Hunt 0

Sir C. F. Rushout's Arbitrator, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb Mr. Crawshaw 0

Lord Calthorpe's Mohican, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb Jewitt 0

Mr. F. G. Dundas's His Lordship, 4 yrs, 1st Flemings 0

Mr. Moore's The Liberator, aged, 1st 5lb Mr. G. Moore 0

Lord Anglesey's Bugle March, 6 yrs, 1st 10lb Mr. E. P. Wilson 0

Mr. Jos. Dawson's Lacy, 6 yrs, 1st 2lb Marsh 0

Sir W. Milner's Packington, 6 yrs, 1st 2lb Gregory 0

Mr. G. Crook's Ebor, 5 yrs, 1st 10lb Mr. Goodwin 0

Mr. C. Bush's Brown Holland 6 yrs, 1st Spencer 0

Mr. R. Peck's Perry, 4 yrs, 1st Mr. F. G. Hobson 0

Mr. Gerard's Miss Lizzie, 4 yrs, 1st Cannon 0

Mr. Padwick's Broadside, 4 yrs, 1st 7lb R. I'Anson 0

Mr. R. Hutton's Duplex (late Le Shah), 5 yrs, 1st 9lb S. Daniels 0

Betting: 3 to 1 agst Broadside, 8 to 1 agst Scamp, 10 to 1 agst Miss Lizzie, 11 to 1 agst Ebor, 15 to 1 agst Woodcock, 100 to 1 agst Ingomar, 100 to 6 agst Arbitrator, 20 to 1 agst Liberator, 25 to 1 agst Sir Hugh, 25 to 1 agst Bugle March, 25 to 1 agst Lacy, 25 to 1 agst Duplex, 50 to 1 agst Innishowen, 50 to 1 agst Mohican, 50 to 1 agst His Lordship, 50 to 1 agst Packington, 50 to 1 agst Percy, 50 to 1 agst Brown Holland. Industrialis was struck out at 3:30 on the day of the race. Bugle March made play clear of Broad-side, Liberator, and Percy, with Duplex, Miss Lizzie, Arbitrator, Woodcock, Lacy, and Mohican heading the others, Brown Holland, Ingomar, and Scamp being the last three, Bugle March went along the Woodsides with a clear lead of Broadside and Liberator, the e being just in front of Percy, Liberator being pulled back, Percy and Lacy went on third and fourth, Miss Lizzie, Packington, Duplex, Arbitrator, Mohican, and Woodcock being next, and they ran thus until a mile of the journey had been accomplished. As they came along the Woodsides for the last time Broadside took up the running, followed by Sir Hugh, Liberator, Woodcock, Miss Lizzie, Scamp, and Lottery. Duplex heading the others till reaching the last flight. Sir Hugh cleared the obstacle abreast with Broadside, but was cannoned against whilst in the air and came down, while at the same time Broadside was in trouble, and Woodcock was for a moment left in front. Before reaching the last hurdles Scamp shot past him and the race was over, Sir J. Astley's colt coming on and winning easily by eight lengths; three lengths between second and third; Brown Holland was fourth; Broadside fifth; Miss Lizzie sixth; Duplex seventh; Liberator eighth; then at a long interval came His Lordship and Ebor, who were fifty yards in front of Lacy and Bugle March. The others were beaten off. A MAIDEN HURDLE-RACE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added. One mile and a half, over six flights. Seventeen subs.

Mr. G. Bracher's Selim, by Fly Ivan—Maid of Erin, 4 yrs, 1st 10lb

J. Prince w.o.

WEDNESDAY.

The SHIRLEY HANDICAP HURDLE RACE PLATE of 100 sovs 1/2 mile, over six flights.

Mr. C. Bush's Brown Holland, by Rover—Paulina, 6 yrs, 1st 10lb

Spencer 1

Mr. J. Nightingall's Chief Ranger, aged, 1st 10lb W. I'Anson 2

Mr. Ellerton's Farnsfield, 6 yrs, 1st 12lb R. I'Anson 3

Also ran: Don Ricardo, aged, 1st 10lb; Teuton, 4 yrs, 1st 10lb; Decorator, 6 yrs, 1st 5lb; Mainmast, 4 yrs, 1st 7lb; Knight of the Bath, 4 yrs, 1st 10lb; Domiduca, 4 yrs, 1st 10lb; Tancred, 5 yrs, 1st 10lb.

Betting: 6 to 4 agst Brown Holland, 7 to 1 each agst Farnsfield and Teuton, 8 to 1 agst Mainmast, and 12 to 1 each agst others. Won in a canter by six lengths; a bad third.

The CROYDON MILITARY HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE of 10 sovs each, with 50 added; winners extra. About 2 1/2 miles.

Mr. Fitzroy's Cagebrook, by Marquis—dam's pedigree unknown, aged, 1st 12lb Mr. W. B. Morris 1

Captain Abbott's Austrey, 5 yrs, 1st 10lb Mr. Irwin 2

Betting: 11 to 10 on Cagebrook. Cagebrook completed the distance alone.

The CHAMPION HURDLE RACE of 20 sovs each, 10 ft, with 100 added; for four-year-olds and upwards. 2 miles.

Mr. J. Johnson's Rufina, aged, 1st 12lb (in 5lb ex) S. Daniels 1

AMATEUR PERFORMANCES.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE BY OFFICERS OF THE 105TH L.I.—The ever-changing military element of Colchester has been instrumental in supplying the lieges of the Borough with much musical, athletic, and social amusement during the last 20 years, and many a brilliant company has assembled at the Theatre Royal to witness the histrionic ability of gallant officers of Regiments quartered there. Perhaps, however, a more numerous and fashionable audience was never attracted to that place of dramatic performance than that which recently assisted at an entertainment given by the officers of the 105th Regiment. The lady amateurs were the Hon. Mrs. George Wrottesley (whose portrait we gave last week), Mrs. Hunt-Foulston, Mrs. Meares (wife of Captain Meares, director at the Colchester Gymnasium), and Miss Graham. The performances commenced with *The Rivals*, and the "cast" was as follows:—Sir Anthony Absolute, Major Wilkinson, 105th L.I.; Captain Absolute, Capt. Denshire, 51st K.O.L.I.; Faulkland, W. E. Hilliard, Esq., 105th L.I.; Bob Acres, W. Douglas Graham, Esq., 105th L.I.; Sir Lucius O'Trigger, Capt. Davy, 105th L.I.; Fag, C. Barter, Esq., 105th L.I.; David, J. Adamson, Esq., 105th L.I.; Coachman, Capt. Symons, 105th L.I.; Mrs. Malaprop, The Hon. Mrs. G. Wrottesley; Lydia Languish, Mrs. Hunt-Foulston; Julia, Miss Graham; Lucy, Mrs. Meares; Fag's Victim, Master Meares. The Hon. Mrs. Wrottesley is said to have represented the character of Mrs. Malaprop scores of times. Her "arrangement of epitaphs" was faithful to the book, and extremely amusing to the audience. Her play was as nearly as possible perfection; her dress was historically correct and the

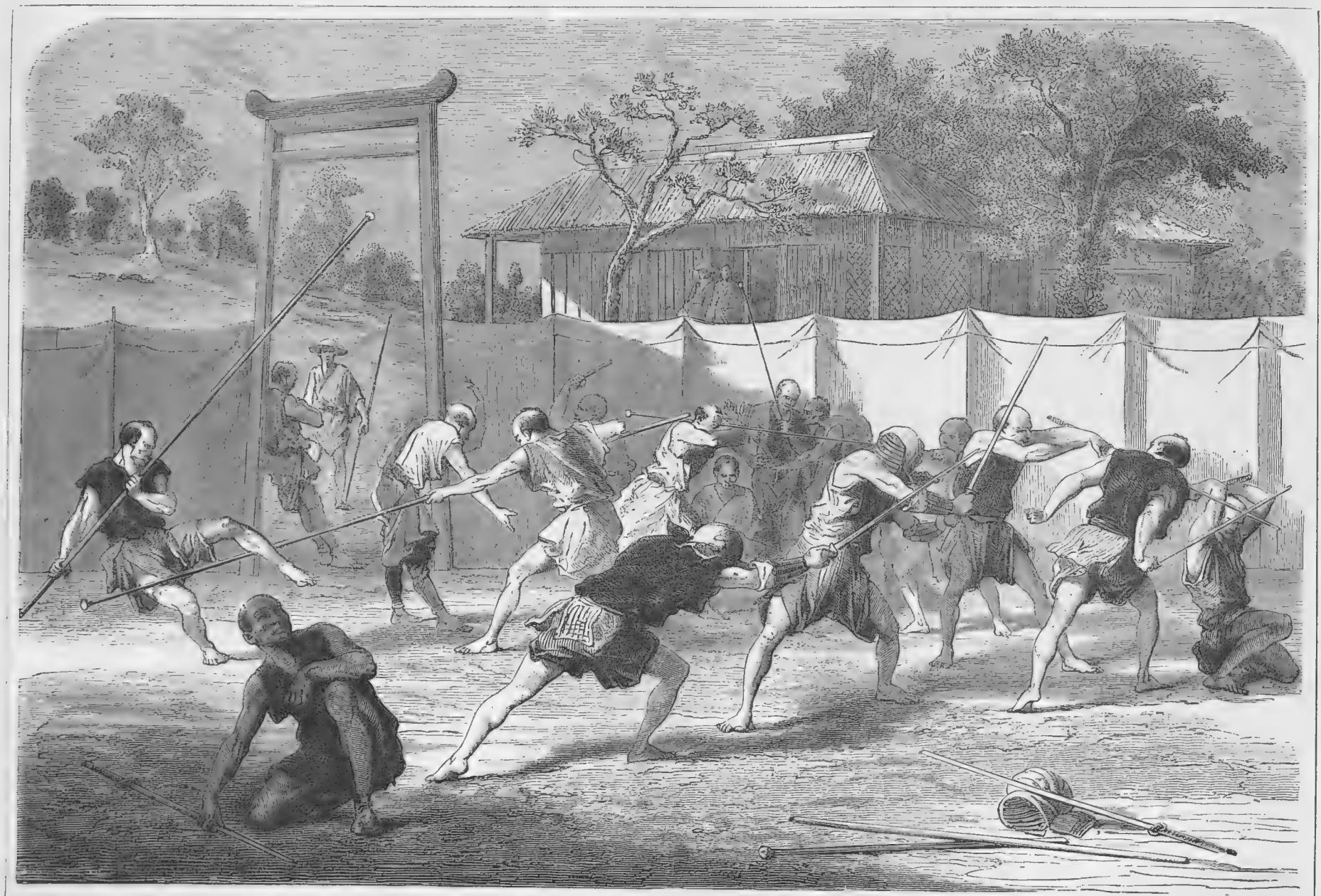
perfection of detail. Mrs. Hunt-Foulston (whose portrait we shall shortly have the pleasure of presenting), as Lydia Languish, was an apt delineation of a fickle and romance-reading girl. Miss Graham, the sister of one of the Officers of the Regiment, fitly discharged the part of Julia; but as the sickly sentimentalism of the play between herself and the love-lorn Faulkland was expunged, there was no opportunity for display. Mrs. Meares, as the go-between servant Lucy, was certainly the favourite of the evening, owing not alone to being known in Colchester as a resident, but to the admirable manner in which the points in the part were taken up. Her "make-up" was excellent, and if it had a fault it was the one to be expected—it was a wee bit too elegant for a servant. However, no one was more heartily applauded than Lucy. Considering that Major Wilkinson made his first appearance with an onerous part to discharge, and his having had only a few days' notice, he acquitted himself well. The Captain Absolute of the gallant Officer of the 51st Regiment was a good performance. Sir Lucius O'Trigger was well rendered by Capt. Davy, and as the weight of managerial responsibility rested with that gentleman, not a little credit is due to him for the success of the performance. The Bob Acres of Mr. Graham was the best effort of the gentlemen. The cast of the farce of *Betsy Baker* was as follows:—Mr. Marmaduke Mouser, Capt. Darvill, 105th L.I.; Mr. Crumby, Capt. Davy, 105th L.I.; Mrs. Mouser, Mrs. Hunt-Foulston; Betsy Baker, The Hon. Mrs. G. Wrottesley.

KING'S CROSS THEATRE.—An excellent performance of the favourite comedy-drama by W. S. Gilbert, Esq., entitled *An Old Score*, was recently given as a complimentary benefit to Miss Florence Wade by an excellent company of amateurs to a very fair house, considering the most unpleasant weather which set in during the latter part of the afternoon. The Colonel Cal-

thorpe of Mr. W. Alexander was admirably well played; Harold Calthorpe (the Colonel's son) was fairly rendered by Mr. C. Lewis, but would have shown to better advantage with a little more animation; James Casby, the Bombay merchant, was capitalised by Mr. Walter Leslie, who, we think, carried the honours among the gentlemen. The minor parts were taken by Messrs. Bennett, Dallas, and Davies. The ladies were well represented: Ethel Barrington (Colonel Calthorpe's niece) had a charming and lady-like representative in Miss Florence Wade, who played with much feeling and good taste. The nursery governess, Mary Waters, was remarkably well played by Miss Julie Evans, who narrowly escaped an encore in a very pretty song, "Is this a dream," sung by her in the second act. Mrs. Pike, the laundress, by Miss Vincent, completed the cast. The play was altogether a very creditable performance. A comedietta in one act, *The Happy Pair*, was very well rendered by Miss Florence Wade and Mr. Charles Lewis.

SALOMON HERMANN MOSENTHAL, PH.D.

The death of the dramatic poet Mosenthal, on the 17th of February last, in Vienna, was a source of universal regret, for the author of *Deborah* had won a world-wide reputation. He was born in Cassel, on the 14th of January, 1821; and up to the day before his death followed his usual occupations. His parents were a poor Jewish couple, who gave him a good education, after the completion of which he, when twenty years old, came to Vienna, where his position as a teacher in the family of Herr Von Goldschmidt—a relative of the Rothschilds—gave him the advantages of good society, and ultimately secured him a connection of con-



ASSAULT AT ARMS IN JAPAN.

siderable influence. His poetic productions were chiefly dramatic. In his twenty-fifth year he edited *Der Hollaender-Mechel*, which was played at Vienna, in 1846. In the following year he produced *Die Slavin*, a three-act drama, also played in Vienna. Neither of these pieces, however, enjoyed much popularity. In 1849, Mosenthal produced at once *Cecilia Von Albano*, at the Bourg Theatre, and *Deborah*; although the latter was not played until June, 1864, it achieved a success which won its author European renown, and was translated into the languages of all civilised countries. The first-named play appeared for eight nights only, and was withdrawn in consequence of the licensor of plays protesting against the introduction of religious symbols and ceremonies. In 1857, *Sonnwendhof* was produced, and did more for his fame than any other of his productions. In quick succession he next produced the following plays: *Das Gefangenebild*, *Dereweke*, *Die Deutschen Komädianten*, *Palon*, *Derschulz von Altenbueren*, *Isabella*, *Orsina*, *Maryna*, *Syrene*, *Parisina*. He also wrote the libretto for several of the most popular German operas, including *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, by Nikolai; *Der Goldschmidt von Ulm*, by Marschner; *Der Mueller von Meran*, by Flotow; *The Adventures of Charles and Lipstullian*, by Veskque; *Die erst Faller*, by Lechetizky; *Judith*, by Doppler; *Prince Magnus*, by Herbeck; *Das Landhaus*, by Kaeszmayr; *Die Kinder der Haine*, Moses, and *Die Makkabaeer*, by Rubinstein; *The Queen of Saba*, by Goldmark; *Dwardowski*, by Mueller; *Di Folkunger*, by Kretschmer; and *The Golden Cross*, by Brueell.

Dr. Mosenthal was librarian to the Austrian Cultus Ministerial, a position he had long held; and in the course of his distinguished career, he had received many honours and titles of distinction.

His funeral, which was conducted in state with the usual Jewish ceremonies, was attended by a vast crowd, composed of thousands of persons occupying all positions in society, from the most distinguished downwards, every window and balcony along the route being crowded with spectators. He was buried in the Jewish cemetery, and in accordance with his special request, in the grave of his wife, who died in 1862.

MISS JULIA GAYLORD.

THE position held by Miss Julia Gaylord in the Carl Rosa Opera Company during last season was, it is needless to remark, a deservedly prominent one, and especially interesting when the possibilities of her professional future were borne in mind. As we have from time to time had occasion to notice her efforts in English opera, and shall probably have that pleasure again, we abstain from mixing criticism with the brief biographical sketch, which is submitted as an accompaniment to the portrait that is given on the front page. Miss Gaylord commenced her professional career about four years ago, in America, as an actress. Previous to that time she had appeared in amateur theatricals, and given her services for charities. Upon the death of her father (who was a Unitarian clergyman) she had found it necessary to adopt the stage as a profession. After one year's experience on the stage, and having had some little musical instruction, with the encouragement of her friends she went to Paris, intending to study for two years. There Miss Gaylord placed herself under the instruction of Martel. She had been with him nine months, when Mr. Rosa came to Paris in search of a prima donna, and entered into an engagement with the subject of this

notice. Miss Gaylord made her first appearance in Dublin, March 28th, 1875, in *The Bohemian Girl*, as Arline. During that season she sang *Fra Diavolo* (Zerlina), and *The Lily of Killarney* (Eily). Her first appearance in London was at the Princess's, in *Fra Diavolo*; and afterwards at the Lyceum. As our readers are aware, Miss Gaylord has sung in the *Water Carrier*, *Der Freischütz*, *Fidelio*, *Porter of Havre*, *Joconde*, *Siege of Rochelle*, *Pauline* and *Maritana*. She is now on a tour with the Carl Rosa Company.

Our portrait is from a photograph published by the Stereoscopic Company.

DRURY LANE is announced "to let from April next." The Thames Embankment Opera House does not advance, and there is reason to fear that it will be impossible to finish Her Majesty's Theatre in the Haymarket in time for the ensuing season.

RICHARD WAGNER's health has improved, and he intends paying a visit to England in the course of April. The object of his excursion is the bringing out of parts of his *Nibelungen* trilogy on the English stage, and the maestro wishes to superintend the performances himself. The Boersen Courier contradicts the statement that Herr Wagner will be accompanied on his visit to London by his niece, Madame Jackman-Wagner. As far as is at present settled, MM. Hill and Unger, who enacted at Bayreuth the parts respectively of Alberich and Siegfried, and Madame Friedrich-Matima, who sang at Bayreuth as Brunhild, will be of Herr Wagner's party, and entire sections of the *Nibelungenlied* will be sung. The direction of the enterprise will be entrusted to an experienced impresario.

OUR CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

L'Article 47 was a French melodrama not easy to adapt into English. The usual difficulty that interposes between French plays and our stage is that of defective morality. The drama, however, now played at the Globe Theatre under the name of *Cora* is comparatively free from this disability. It is in the matter of construction it presents difficulties of a somewhat confounding character to any but a most practical playwright. Neither of the adaptors in this instance can be credited with much constructive skill. Mr. Wills, albeit, having a fine dramatic instinct, is nothing if not literary. And Mr. Frank Marshall possesses that pious enthusiasm for the romantic drama which gives him a patience of long-winded speeches and psychological soliloquy intolerable to less high-minded playgoers. Therefore, as might have been expected, *Cora* is over-weighted with superabundant dialogue, much of which is prettily enough written, but at the same time sadly cumbersome to the dramatic action of the piece.

The strong interest of the original melodrama lies between the two principal characters, Georges du Hamel and Cora. As the piece was purchased by Mr. Hermann Vezin for the sake of the latter part, I think it would have been most advisable for the adaptors to have concentrated the force of the drama in the character of the heroine. Instead of doing so, however, they have contrived to make the action more straggling than ever. The character of Georges du Hamel is one of those distinctively French heroes of romance, the extravagance of whose passions and the weakness of whose moral instincts makes them simply absurd, if not repulsive, in the eyes of an English audience. Cora, on the contrary, is a natural delineation of a genuine type of woman. With tropical blood in her veins, and the taint of slavery upon her birth, she is as uncompromising and uncomfortable in her love as in her hate. A creature of extremes; she will admit no refinement of reasoning between her passion and its object, no sense of justice to qualify her fierce instincts. Once she has inflicted her love upon a man, she clings to him as a



tigress to her prey, and will not let him go until she has satisfied that love, or, if scorned, satisfied her revenge. That a woman like this Cora should be made to reform in the last act, as she does in Messrs. Wills and Marshall's adaptation, and to indulge in the goody-goody sentiments of repentance and expiation is quite enough to upset the dramatic consistency of the character. In truth, the last act of *Cora* is altogether a mistake. The curtain ought to be dropped (as in the original I believe it is) upon the death of the woman after her superb mad scene, which terminates the third act. Her subsequent resurrection, that she may be sanctified by the ghastly mockery of a conversion in *articulo mortis*, is in the highest degree unsatisfactory, not to say inartistic. To my mind it is also a much more repulsive picture than any of Cora's former exhibitions of savage and sinful passion. It is a truckling to the hypocritical prejudice of the British playgoer, who would have the drama not a mirror held up to human nature as human nature truly is, but a colored medium through which it is shown subject to the moral cowardice which results from the terrorism of certain theological dogmas. Had Georges du Hamel, the man whom Cora enslaves because she loves him, whom she makes, against his better interests, to neglect in the heart-breaking degree his virtuous sweetheart and venerable mother, had he been a man of stainless character and high moral rectitude, had even his behaviour to herself been in any way magnanimous and honest, one could have pardoned, while regretting her death-bed repentance. But this Georges du Hamel is all through an unutterable coward, and occasionally an unmilitated scoundrel. In the prologue, after declining to marry Cora, as under the circumstances an honourable man would have done, he shoots the side of her face off, nearly killing her, and quite destroying her appearance for life. Happily, upon this her sense of justice for once gets the better of her love, she bears witness against him, and gets him sentenced to five years penal servitude, exactly half the punishment he deserved, if, indeed, the capital sentence would have been too much for such a miscreant. When Mr. du Hamel is released from the galleys and has had time to remove his convict's dress, grow his hair again, and procure fashionable clothing and kid gloves (especially kid gloves) he assumes a false name and imme-



ciately begins to make love to a young, virtuous, and highly respectable girl (doubtless for the sake of her dowry, albeit he simulates a creditable show of affection). She accepts him, and were it not for the shadow of his previous crime and the hauntings of a guilty conscience, he would feel himself in a tolerably luxuriant crop of clover. At this juncture Cora again crosses his path. Her poor scarred face is hidden by a veil, but she has forgiven him that dreadful injury, and the love-light burns in her eyes more in-



Furious Fernandez or
The Fatal Lover

tensely, more imploringly than ever. She pleads to him humbly for forgiveness who should have sued to her. His imprisonment should have taught him contrition for his foul deed had he been a man in any true sense of the word, and his first impulse on his release should have been to seek her out and make her all the reparation in his power. Of course he can excuse himself, on the ground that it was in an ungovernable fit of jealousy he fired at her. But now he adds insult to the injury, scorns her love, and threatens her with his hate. Indeed he is altogether a contemptible person, this Georges du Hamel, and as Cora has the stronger will of the two, she does not tamely submit to his scorn, but binds him to her side by the threat of exposure. It is needless, however, for me to occupy my limited space with the details of the plot, which have elsewhere been given. It will be enough for me to remark specially upon the one performance in the Globe version of *L'Article 47*, which makes the production of the drama a signal event of the theatrical season.

Although the lighter kinds of comedy, and the milder form of sentimental drama are not without excellent, and, in some instances, gifted exponents among the actresses of the English stage, that stage possesses but one actress whose power of expressing dramatically the heights and depths and subtle workings of human passion, approach to what is called genius. That actress is Mrs. Hermann Vezin. And although her performance of the part of Cora is in parts unequal, the inequalities occur only where the play fails in construction. The action wants bringing together, and the plot concentration. Cora herself is the absorbing object of interest, and the amount of irrelevant dialogue and incident which is devoted to the subordinate characters, only disturbs that interest, and becomes quite provoking at times. Putting all faults aside, however, it must be allowed that Mrs. Vezin's acting of Cora is an artistic feat it would be difficult to value over highly. In the scene where Cora goes mad, she has the stage entirely to herself for a period that would be fatal to the



powers of a less consummate tragic actress. Yet the intense strain of varied passionate emotion is sustained unfalteringly to the climax, which comes upon the audience with an almost paralysing effect. Though it would be easy to write on in praise concerning the details of it, I must content myself with this general eulogy of a performance no intelligent playgoer should neglect to witness. As Georges du Hamel Mr. Fernandez disappointed me. When this actor played the part of the infatuated monk, Claude Frollo, in Haliday's version of *Notre Dame*, I admired his performance immensely; and by so much as I admired that, am I dissatisfied with this. He has not even endeavoured to put a touch of character into the part of Du Hamel, but contents himself with a mechanical process of elocution that is like anything but nature. Otherwise his acting is careful, and in some of the less emotional scenes unblamable. As a somewhat incomprehensible doctor, Mr. Beveridge wears a wonderfully well-fitting grey wig, and acts in the easy, direct, and natural style it is evidently his aim to preserve. Mr. Leathes, as Victor Marzilier, plays the part with dignity and finish. In the short space of eight years which lapse between Acts I. and III. disappointment in love manages to blanch his hair with alarming effectiveness. This, however, is a detail, and Mr. Leathes looks very well in his white wig. Miss Telbin is quite overweighed with the part of Marcelle. The character demands force as well as refinement. This young actress possesses the latter, but as yet lacks the force. Mr. David Fisher, jun., plays the comic part.

THE concert given last spring at the Royal Albert Hall, by Messrs. Nurdin and Peacock in aid of the Cheesemongers' Benevolent Institution, resulting in placing £1,100 to the credit of the fund, has been so encouraging that the same firm have resolved upon giving another concert at the Albert Hall on Easter Monday evening, with the same charitable object in view. Among the artistes engaged are Madame Patey, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Anna Williams, Signor Foli, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mr. Thurley Beale; and the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, and the Lord Mayor are among the patrons of the concert.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The fact of the insertion of any letter in these columns does not necessarily imply our concurrence in the views of the writers, nor can we hold ourselves responsible for any opinions that may be expressed therein.]

KINGSBURY STEEPELCHASES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS.)

SIR.—On the 17th ult. I notice under this heading in the leading journals of the day, that a Mr. Allingham, a solicitor, has taken most unwarrantable liberties with my name, and I ask you to give me the opportunity of replying to his alike unnecessary and uncalled for impertinence. I believe that it is the especial privilege of a solicitor that he is a gentleman, according to Act of Parliament. It does not, however, necessarily follow that he is one, and it is quite possible that it is this gentleman's sole claim to the appellation; certainly his action in this matter forfeits all claim to it, for whether I am the only one here who loves not gate-meetings is beyond his means of information. I well know that I am not, but in any case, it is my business, not his, unless I have to look upon him as a paid advocate, even then he can hardly claim the immunity of counsel, for although aware of the license permitted to advocates, I have yet to learn that it has ever been claimed by or allowed to gentlemen of his calling, therefore I repudiate his right to mention my name or refer to me in any way in connection with his advocacy of these meetings. His experience as a solicitor should have taught him the danger, in the absence of direct proofs, of attributing a motive to any one he might fancy inimical to the interests of his client. In this he has taught me a lesson, "and it shall go hard but I will better the instruction." Permit me, therefore, to instruct this solicitor that until he, by his advocacy, begged the question, no one here even doubted the respectability of his client, or would raise a finger to prevent him obtaining the license to his tavern that he thought endangered. For my own part, I would go considerably out of my way to assist his client to that end if necessary; but his races are quite another thing, and we feel that "the proprietors" would be every whit as respectable, certainly more respected, and probably better off in the end, if they confined themselves to their several taverns, content, as ordinary traders, with the legitimate profits of their respective callings, leaving racing to racing men, most qualified to attend to it. For myself, so far from being an enemy to racing, I am ardently attached to it. I am the son of the late Mr. James Haxell, of Ipswich, a thorough sportsman, an amateur breeder of blood stock, who, in conjunction with the late Mr. Joseph Rogers, the father of the jockey, bred more good blood stock than "the proprietors" of this place ever saw here. Many of these horses were sold to the Duke of Orleans for prices which the whole of their weedy things potted together could not realise. I allude here to a horse called Bridegroom, which, bred by, and winning some thousands for, my father, as the pages of *Bell's Life* will prove, was sold to the French prince for 850 guineas. I knew intimately the first trainers of my day, and had the entree to the best stables, those for instance of Mr. Richard Wilson, of Billesdon, Mr. William Edwards, his sons, Mr. Boyce, Mr. Pettit, Mr. Chisney of Newmarket, &c. I cannot think there are now wanting sportsmen who follow racing for the love of it, not as a trade only, but who agree with me and many here that racing would benefit by the suppression of the gate meetings. It is not my intention, under any circumstances, to extend this correspondence, my only wish being, by a straightforward letter, to set myself right with racing men, and to show that so far from being a fanatic, as stated by my detractors, I am as true a sportsman as ever crossed pig-skin, which I did on Newmarket-heath years before some of these gentlemen were foaled. —I am, Sir, yours, &c., EDWARD NELSON HAXELL.

Kingsbury, March 6, 1877.

AN ASSAULT AT ARMS IN JAPAN.

I HAVE been present more than once at the assaults at arms of the Jakounines. The champions salute before commencing the attack. Often, the one on guard places one knee on the ground in order to cross the sword better, and to more effectually parry his adversary's stroke. Each pass is accompanied with theatrical poses and expressive gestures. Each cut provokes passionate exclamations from one side or the other; then the judges intervene, and emphatically pronounce their verdict, a cup of tea then enlivens the *entr'acte*, and the bout recommences with increased vigour.

Japanese ladies even indulge in fencing. Their arm is a lance with bent iron, which one might compare with those of the Polish mowers (reapers). They carry the point inclined towards the ground, and wield them in regular motions in a series of attitudes, positions, and cadenced movements, which would furnish charming ideas for a ballet. I was not allowed to witness this graceful spectacle long, but I glanced at it in passing the open door of a

court yard before my conductor shut the door, assuring me that the customs of the country did not permit witnesses of the female passages of arms. It is said that the Japanese Amazons use also with great skill a kind of pruning-knife, retained in their hand by a long silken cord. This arm is destined to be hurled at the head of the enemy, and withdrawn by the aid of the silken cord.

BUCKINGHAM DRAMATIC CLUB.

THE third performance of this club (the president of which is Mr. Henry Neville, the popular manager of the Olympic Theatre) took place on Monday last at the Bijou Theatre, in Bayswater. There were three pieces performed, but we were only enabled to witness the principal, a comedy-drama by Mr. Wybert Reeve, entitled *Parted*. This, though in the main weighed down by the disabilities which are usually attendant upon amateur performances, was, as regards one or two of the principal characters, very promisingly and creditably played. Miss Kathleen O'Connor, who played the leading lady part of Elsie Lovell, besides having the natural qualifications of a very musical voice and a good appearance, showed much artistic aptitude for the dramatic profession. In the last act she proved unequal to the task of sustaining the character to the end. Her self-possession seemed to wane at the very crisis when it should have supported her most firmly. Mr. Salmon, who played Victor Orme, though afflicted with some affectations of style and manner, is not half a bad actor. His voice and accentuation have a strange but palpable resemblance to those of Mr. John S. Clarke, a resemblance which sometimes disturbed the sentimental portions of his dialogue. A small character part at the very end of the play was well done by C. U. Douglas. The remaining parts were played by Miss Maggie Adair and Miss Hilda Ford (the latter by the way making a very creditable effort at playing an old woman), Messrs. Norman, Bent, Bertie V. Gordon, Vernon A. Venables, George Joyner, and C. H. Linton; and no serious hitch occurred.

CLERKS OF THE COURSE.

No. IV.—MR. T. S. DAWSON.

THE subject of our notice is the second son of Thomas Dawson, the well known Middleham trainer. He was born at Breckengill Lodge, in Middleham, on the 23rd day of April, 1840. It is now about six years since he commenced his career as clerk of the course for the Pontefract and Scarborough Meetings; and in the autumn of the same season he decided to relinquish the profession of trainer, and devote himself entirely to that business. The following year he was asked to accept office at Redcar, where, for the first time, with the exception of leather flapping on the sands, races were held, and after progressing steadily for three years, the promoters formed the idea of improving the course and building grand stands, which are now thoroughly completed, and Redcar boasts one of the best courses in the kingdom, with a splendid straight mile equal to any in England, and two meetings, spring and summer, are permanently established there. With these meetings Mr. Dawson went on until the autumn of 1875, when, through vacancies occurring at Thirsk and Lanark, he was appointed to fill the office of clerk of the course; and he has recently, in connection with Mr. E. M. Johnson, of York, been placed as joint clerk of the course for Newton, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Baker.

Mr. Dawson, it is almost needless to add, is one of the most popular clerks in the northern circuit. It should be said he was asked by some of the leading north-country noblemen, gentlemen, and trainers, last spring, to act as handicapper in addition to the clerk of the course, but to this somewhat flattering request he at once gave a flat refusal. The motive which chiefly actuated him was praiseworthy. To quote his own words, "he was quite right to stick to the legitimate business of clerk of the course, as with so many near relatives, owners and trainers, he would have only got himself into hot water by attempting the handicapping." We may conclude our notice with the remark that all the meetings under Mr. Dawson's guidance have so far progressed most satisfactorily, and he has never had a hitch or anything unpleasant with any one connected with them since he commenced "business."

ON Tuesday night a serious accident happened to two trapeze performers, a man and a woman named Lamont, at the Alexandra Music Hall, Manchester. They were performing upon a bar 30ft high above the orchestra, when their feet failed to lock and both fell to the floor, no protecting net being used. They were picked up in an unconscious state, and were conveyed to the infirmary, where it was found that the woman was suffering from an extreme nervous shock.

Wareham Farm, Guildford.—Feb. 22, Mr. Blenkiron's two mares arrived to Thunderbolt—Francisca, barren to Rosicrucian, Miss Sourin, barren to Vanderdecken; Mr. Chaplin's Hazeldean, maiden, arrived to Thunderbolt. March 1st, Mr. Chaplin's mare Chanvinesse, a b c by Doncaster, and will be put to Thunderbolt.

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STUD NEWS.

The following mares have arrived at Sandgate Stud Farm to Paganini:—Mr. Drake's Viola (Professor's dam) by Trumpeter, Sir C. Nugent's Emily by Solon, Mr. Gerard's Hesione by King of Trumps and Suez by Wild Dayrell (both barren), and Mr. Marsh's Pakrita.

There are now at Dewhurst Lodge, on Scottish Chief's list, either as residents or visitors, the following five distinguished mares, winners of the One Thousand Guineas or Oaks, some of them heroines of both events; Lady Augusta, Repulse, Formosa, Apology, and Spinaway.

At Old Oak Farm, Shepherd's Bush, on the 10th inst., Mr. Tattersall's Sonata a bay filly by Lord Lyon, to whom Mr. Lowe's Editha (with brown filly by Lord Lyon) has arrived.

The following mares have arrived at the Glasgow Paddocks, Doncaster:—To Tibthorpe:—Captain Bedford's Nameless Nannie, Barmaid, and mare by Macaroni. To The Rake:—Mr. Greaves's Mirth (in foal to The Rake).

At Elsham Hall Paddocks, on Feb. 2, Sir J. D. Astley's Lampoon, a bay colt by Broomielaw, and will be put to him again. 14th, His Elmira a brown colt by Salvano, and will be put to him again. Arrived to Broomielaw:—Mr. Etches's Man-gosteen (in foal to Holy Friar).

Sheffield Lane Paddocks, Feb. 19, arrived Mr. Waring's Alarum, barren to Carnival, to be put to Adventurer; 20th, Lord Rosslyn's Tripaway, in foal to Favonius to be put to Adventurer.

Dewhurst Lodge Stud Farm.—January 11, Mr. Thos. Gee's mare Affinity, by Young Melbourne, a filly by King of the Forest, and will be put to Scottish Chief; 15th, Ammunition, by Vedette, a filly by Kingcraft, and will be put to the King o' Scots; 18th, Gemma, by Warmsley, a filly by Prince Charlie, and will be put to Doncaster; 21st, Light, by Prime Minister, a filly by Cecrops, and will be put to him again; 26th, Parmesa, by Buccaneer, a filly by Young Melbourne, and will be put to Scottish Chief. February 1, Crossfire, by Vedette, a colt by Cecrops, and will be put to him again; same day, Lady Valentine, by Ledbury, a colt by Scottish Chief, and will be put to him again. February 5, Violet, by Thormanby, a bay colt by Scottish Chief, and will be put to Cecrops. 5th, Virtue, by Stockwell, twin fillies to Scottish Chief, and will be put to him again. 10th, Murcia, by Lord of the Isles, a colt by Vedette, and will be put to him again. 16th, The Gem, by King of Trumps, a colt to Citadel, and will be put to him again. 17th, Cerintha, by Newminster, a filly by Scottish Chief, and will be put to Doncaster. 21st, the Duke of St. Albans' mare Gardenia a filly by Hermit, and will be put to Scottish Chief.

Moorlands Stud Farm, York.—On February 16, Mr. Thompson's Jung Frau, by Flying Dutchman (dam of Wizard and Teuton), a bay colt by Speculum (foaled nearly three weeks before due time, and foal died same day), and will be put to him again. The following mares have recently arrived to Speculum:—Captain Vyner's Sophia, by Macaroni, with foal at foot, by Knight of the Garter; Melinda, by King Tom, with filly at foot by Mandrake; Mr. R. Wright's Irene, by King Tom (dam of Queen Mab), barren; General Peel's Liverpool's dam (by West Australian), barren; and Gilbert's dam by Toxophilite, barren; Mr. Cholmley's Carnation, in foal to Meteor; Lady Angela, by Angelas, barren; Mr. I'Anson's Blue Light, by Kataplan, barren, and another mare of Mr. I'Anson's; and Major Stavylion's Princess, by Autocrat (dam of Syrian and Speranza), in foal to Speculum. To Knight of the Garter: General Peel's Anonyma, by Stockwell, barren; Lady Masham, by brother to Stafford, barren; Mr. Waring's La Roseraie, by Beadsman, barren; Mr. Trotter's Marie, by De Clare (dam of K. G. and Kelchburne), with filly at foot by Vulcan. Mr. W. H. Scott's Blair Brae, by Blair Athol, in foal to Macgregor (it is not yet settled whether the last-named mare will be put to Knight of the Garter or Vanderdecken); Mr. Brown's Flighty, by King of Trumps, in foal to Knight of the Garter, and Mr. Etches' Celibacy, by Lord Clifden, in foal to Queen's Messenger. To Vanderdecken: Mr. Dudley Milner's Manon Lescaut, by Adventurer, in foal to King Lud; Mr. M. Brown's Nelly (sister to Restless), by Breadalbane, barren; Captain Vyner's Carnizette, by Knight of Kars, with filly at foot by Loiterer; Mr. Wingfield's Ellen, by Vedette (maiden), and Sir William Milner's Cora Pearl, with colt at foot by Martyrdom.

Park Paddocks, Newmarket.—On January 15, Mr. Gee's Ammunition, a bay filly by Kingcraft, will be put to King o' Scots. February 12, Lord Rosslyn's Lady Louise, a brown filly by Vedette, and will be put to Kingcraft. The following have arrived to Kingcraft:—Lord Rosslyn's The Gift, in foal to Knight of the Garter, and his Lataki, in foal to Restitution; Mr. Saville's Modena, chestnut mare by Parmesan, dam by Chanticleer (both maiden), and his Pique (barren); Mr. Wright's Mitraileuse, by Arthur Wellesley; Mr. Taylor's Tortuga, barren; Mr. Gee's York Belle, Emily, and Ess Bouquet, all three barren; Lord Falmouth's Silver Hair, with a chestnut foal by Kingcraft.

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ANDREW, by Blair Atol out of Woodcraft, the dam Kingcraft. A limited number of thoroughbred mares, at 25 guineas each; groom's fee, £1 1s.

CAMBALLO, 5 years old, by Cambuscan out of Little Lady, will serve 30 thoroughbred mares at 20 guineas each, and 1 guinea the groom.

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The Editor will not be responsible for the return of rejected communications, and to this rule he can make no exception.

Dramatic and Sporting Correspondents will oblige the Editor by placing the word "Drama" or "Sporting," as the case may be, on the corner of the envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SPORTING.

SAFEUN.—William Scott won the St. Leger Stakes at Doncaster nine times—in 1812 on Mr. Powlett's Jack Spigott, in 1825 on Mr. Watt's Memnon, in 1828 on Mr. Petre's The Colonel, in 1829 on the same Owner's Rowton, in 1838 on Lord Chesterfield's Don John, in 1839 on Major Yarburgh's Charles XII., in 1840 on Lord Westminster's Lancelot, in 1841 on the same nobleman's Satirist, and in 1846 on Sir Tatton Sykes, a horse owned by himself. He won the Derby in 1832 on Mr. Kidder's Attila, and in 1833 on Mr. Bowes's Cotherstone. He won the Oaks in 1836 on his brother's mare Cyprian, in 1838 on Lord Chesterfield's Industry, and in 1841 on Lord Westminster's Ghuznee." We have already given his portrait.

E. 129.—To "seal a duck" was an old hawking phrase, which meant putting its eyes out before it was thrown up as a lure. Sometimes the eyes were only partially "sealed," allowing it to see backwards, by which contrivance the duck was kept continually mounting, and thus afforded better exercise for the hawk and greater sport to the spectators. Q. R. B. would be glad of an answer to the following question:—"The Officers of a Militia Regiment hold a private race meeting at the end of their training—amateur in every respect; the stakes a nominal sum, just sufficient for winners to pay expenses of hurdles, flags, &c. Only officers' horses entered. Would a horse running under these circumstances be disqualified for a meeting under Grand National Rules?"

J.S.B. (YORK) says, "I find a reply to a Turfite in re Pick's Racing Calendar, which is now before me, as printed by W. Blanchard and Co., Coppergate, York (date omitted). It is not in three volumes, but the pedigree and performances of the most celebrated racehorses, with an historical account of Arabians, Turks, Barbs, English sires and brood mares, are given in three parts. Should 'Turfite' desire any further information, or you, sir, any more of its contents, so varied and numerous, I shall be happy to supply them. No doubt 'Orton' made considerable and profitable use of Pick's, in his more extended compilation." I enclose a quotation which may be regarded as interesting by many of your readers:—"Lines on the late Mr. William Pick, printer, author, and publisher of the *Historical Racing Calendar, Turf Register, &c.*":

"Beneath this turf poor Pick's remains are laid,
Of whom with strictest truth it may be said,
That o'er life's course he never yet was known
To swerve from that, which honor had marked down.
To jockies keen he clearly could relate
Each racer's pedigree beyond debate;
And while his tale, from all, attention claim'd,
Told 'This for bottom, that for speed was fam'd.'
Their different winnings could correctly trace
From Flying Childer's days to Calton's race;
That race o'er Ebor's Course, which rais'd the name
Of Old Galampus' Son, to deathless fame.
But Pick's last match is run, his trial o'er,
And he is gone where jockeys ride no more;
Though distanced now by Death, at the last burst,
Still let us hope he'll come in first and first;
All sportsmen mourn'd his loss, and scarce an eye,
From fam'd Newmarket's Turf to York was dry;
He train'd so well and proved so true, when tried,
He lived beloved, and regretted, died.
All you, who to his worth due merit gave,
Pause for a moment, as you pass his grave,
And read the name to British Sportsmen dear,
Then say—'The Turf's best friend reposes here.'

The last race Mr. Pick saw, was, when his favourite Calton beat Altisadora, on Monday, at York August Meeting, 1815.

MUSICAL.

G.J.K.—Auber's *Zerlina, or Le Corrade d'Oranges*, was represented for the first time at Her Majesty's, in August, 1851.

V.Y.—Playing *coll'arco* and *pizzicato* at the same moment was not a feat peculiar to Signor Paganini.

ELLEN NORRIS.—Bartholomew, the famous violinist, was born at Bordeaux, in 1741, and performed in England for the first time in 1761.

R.O.—W. Reeves, of Fleet-street, publish some excellent text books.

WILLIAM BLAND asks if we can tell him the author of an old song, called "Beggars and Ballad Singers," of which he quotes a verse,

There's a difference to be seen
Twixt a beggar and a queen,
And the reason I'll tell you why—
A queen cannot swagger,
Nor get drunk like a beggar,
Nor be half as happy as I, I, I,
Nor be half as happy as l.

It appears to have been popular about sixty years ago.

DRAMATIC.

A. TEISSEIRE.—It was said that the popular old play of *The Miller and his Men* had its origin in a very unfair piece of business, not, we fear, altogether unknown, even in the present day. Mr. Lyons, a brother of the first Mrs. H. Bi-hop, sent to the manager of Covent Garden Theatre, in 1817, a drama called *The Robbers of Bohemia*, which was returned to him a few weeks later, marked, "Not adapted for the house." Some time after the *Miller and his Men* made its first appearance at the same theatre, the plot and characters of which Lyons found to be identical with the plot and characters of his rejected MS.

JOHN THOMAS.—The last play written by Henry Fielding, the great novelist, was *The Wedding Day*, which was produced in 1742, at Drury Lane theatre. It was acted six nights only.

S. G. (Ipswich).—It was, we believe, Douglas Jerrold, who said of plays written to orders, that they were usually also played to orders.

H. P. BLAND.—The proscenium of Drury Lane Theatre was added by Elliston. JAMES KING.—The tragedy of *Merope* was written by the Marquis Maffei, a celebrated antiquarian and dramatist, who flourished during the first half of the eighteenth century, in Verona, where he was almost worshipped by the populace. His house was the constant resort of all classes of learned and artistic people, for whom he provided sundry kinds of intellectual entertainments, over which he personally presided. He did much to purify and elevate the taste of society in Verona, a noble service, for which he was long and gratefully remembered.

WALTER F. GUNNY.—We have already replied to the same queries. Lucius Junius Brutus Booth made his *début* in *Richard III.*, at Covent Garden Theatre, in the year 1817, as a rival to Kean; and he afterwards played Iago to Edmund Kean's Othello, at Drury Lane Theatre; but abruptly breaking his engagement, through jealousy, he returned to Covent Garden, where he won great popularity in the part of King Lear; Charles Kemble on the same occasion playing Edgar, and the late Mr. W. Macready, Edmund. It was at the close of this engagement that he left his country for America, and three years after, the rival, whose superiority caused him to emigrate, also played in America. Booth died on the 26th of November, 1852. Booth's Othello was immensely popular in the States. There is a story extant which tells how an old Yankee, who saw him in that part, being afterwards asked how he liked the play, replied "amazing; but cus me if I don't guess that little nigger (Othello) played as well as any of the white fellows—if not better!"

C. J. K.—Pierce Egans's drama *Torn and Jerry* was produced originally at the Queen's Theatre, in Manchester, in 1822, and John Emley created the part of Jerry, in which he won immense popularity.

H. H. W.—It is our practice—We never do answer impertinent questions.

N. M. H. wishes to know where photographs of Mrs. Kendal and Mr. Sugden can be obtained in their characters as Lady Ormonde and Capt. Bradford. They are not to be had at the Stereoscopic Company, Regent-street.

J. R. R.—We, too, saw the drama, but the only act we liked was that act of charity to which the entire performance was devoted. It was not noticed in this paper but a report appeared in one of the weekly local papers.

A. TRUE FRIEND TO THE STAGE thinks that a story in the Christmas Number of *All the Year Round*, entitled "When the Ship Comes Home," would make an admirable drama.

BLACKHEATH AND SEVERAL OTHER CORRESPONDENTS.—It was by the merest accident that our representative omitted from his report of the performance of the Blackheath Dramatic Club the name of the gentleman who played the important part of Sir John Vesey, which was very carefully and ably rendered by Mr. Charles a gentleman of considerable histrionic ability. To no other reason also can we attribute the non-mention, by name, of Messrs. G. W. Clarke and G. F. Sander, with whose respective personations of Stout and Lord Glossmore, as his report implied, he was particularly well pleased.

Z. A.—Yes, Shakespeare's Henry V. was one of John Kemble's favourite parts.

A. THURGOOD.—The contriver of the great bottle-trick hoax, at the Haymarket Theatre, was the eccentric and charitable Duke of Montagu; and the person who personated the Wizard was a poor Scotchman, who held some office connected with the India House.

* In reply to a correspondent, who asks when Mr. and Mrs. Kendal were married, we inform him that the happy event took place on the 7th of August, 1859.

MISCELLANEOUS.

E. WINN.—After the great fire of London Sir Christopher Wren, in his plan for rebuilding the city, proposed the formation of a quay connecting Charing Cross with the city. Colonel Trench's plan of 1824 was proposed to secure a grand new roadway on the banks of the river. This was to be eighty feet in width, with a footpath on either side, separated from the carriage road by rows of trees and lamps. It was to be supported entirely upon arches, with a simple balustrade on the riverside above a boldly projecting cornice. But Wren's idea had other advocates before

Colonel Trench adopted it, and, aided by Philip Wyatt, gave it a more definite form, one being Dr. Newcourt. In 1824 the embankment, since completed, was regarded as a perfectly practical scheme, and a committee was then appointed to carry it out.

E.V.—The Royal Society of Literature was instituted in 1824, under the patronage of the king.

FREDERICK CAWESE.—A hundred and fifty years ago there were not more than three or four carriages to be found in all Manchester, and it was therefore impossible that the procession you refer to could have taken place. There is, probably, some mistake in the date. Mistakes of that kind are, we know, very numerous in the works of the author named in your letter. You will find no reference to the event in Haydon's "Dictionary of Dates," which we have consulted.

A. ELLIS.—It was so, but the custom of attending funerals has fallen off greatly within the last fifty years! It was once common, when the head of a respectable family died to issue invitations for the funeral to at least a hundred friends and acquaintances, and the occasion was usually one at which drinking and feeding took place to no small extent.

G. BERKER.—Jonathan Wilde, the notorious thief-taker, was born at Wolverhampton, in Staffordshire, 1684, and was executed at Tyburn, on the 20th of May, 1725, having been condemned to death seven days previously, under a statute then newly created, for procuring the return of stolen goods to their owners without prosecuting the thieves.

A.—In 1851 the late John Timbs was editor-in-chief of *The Illustrated London News*, and Charles Mackay, the poet, was its political editor.

EDMUND PARKY.—There are many actual facts illustrative of Shakespeare's words. For instance Henry III. of France, who had such a passion for little dogs, could not remain alone in a room with a cat.

THE ILLUSTRATED Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1877.

AFTER a period of somewhat anxious suspense to those more immediately interested in the success of suburban meetings, Mr. Anderson's Bill has made its appearance, and we should think that a heavy load has been removed from the hearts of promoters and managers of metropolitan gatherings. A certain portion of the sporting press had begun "working itself up" into a highly indignant mood at the interference with their so-called "rights" by the Scottish M.P., and a deal of mud has also been thrown at the Middlesex magistrates and that "direful spring of woes unnumbered," the Kingsbury resident. But the measure now before us is of the mildest and most harmless character, and may be regarded as a sort of *brutum fulmen* after the great storm which has been brewing so long, with peals of thunder muttering in the distance. If it is not a case of the mountain and the mouse, it is very much like it, and enterprising caterers for the racing tastes of Cockneydom may draw breath freely once again, and the goodly fellowship of Turf prophets take heart anew; for it is evident that the death blow has not been dealt against these alleged "cancers of civilization." Moreover, in case Mr. Anderson's bill should become law, there will at least be a year of jubilee before it is brought into operation, and the ten miles radius from Charing Cross will include only a few out of the many mushroom meetings by reason of which, as one of their apologists has asserted, "racing is brought home to the doors of the people." Only Kingsbury, Streatham, Eltham, and Alexandra Park will stand a chance of being disfranchised for the present, and the small beer of sport may still be enjoyed at Croydon, Bromley, Enfield, West Drayton, and other places in the outer metropolitan circle. Even the "doomed" meetings may have their lives prolonged, should it seem fit to the licensing powers, and thus it must be confessed that the so-called offenders against public morals have been let down easily enough, and will have only themselves to thank if they find their occupation gone. It is proposed that henceforth the power of licensing racecourses within the above-mentioned area shall rest with the Middlesex magistrates, who shall have the option of refusing or acceding to the application as they may think best, and thus racing is placed upon exactly the same footing as music and dancing licenses. We have no doubt substantial justice will be done, for profound as is the contempt entertained in certain quarters for the great unpaid, whose shortcomings are made the subject of unceasing comment by an unappreciative public, they cannot all be described as bigots or fanatics; indeed among them will be found men whose experience in sporting in all its branches infinitely transcends that of their detractors in the sporting press. When "justice's justice" is held up to ridicule in other journalistic circles, it is but natural that the "beaks" should come in for a share of vituperation at the hands of racing instructors of the public; but it strikes us as extremely bad policy on the part of these writers to be perpetually having their fling at authorities they would do well to respect, if not to conciliate. All must be aware that

remedy will be prompt and easy, and offenders will be liable to have their certificates cancelled, or at least suspended. An opportunity will also be afforded to injured individuals and outraged residents to appeal to the ruling powers for protection against acts on the part of managers and lessees which may be considered to amount to nuisances at common law, so that a much vexed question has a chance of being at last laid to rest, and we trust that an early opportunity may be taken of having a legal construction put upon alleged infringements on the liberty of the subject. The "saving clause" in favour of a twenty years' "user," is almost superfluous, but it can do no harm, and further serves to illustrate the mildness of concerted measures, and the almost benevolent intentions of the Scottish philanthropist. The preamble sets forth clearly the reasons for demanding legislation, and its key-note is the "holding of races in thickly populated places near the metropolis," thus confining the issue to one of self-evident fact, and wisely limiting the question of expediency to the consideration of public convenience, without recourse being had to purely sporting aspects, such as may very well be left to racing and steeplechasing legislators to control.

Between a licensing committee of magistrates and the Jockey Club, the one imposing conditions of order and respectability, and the other enforcing their new rules as to added money, it is certain that much good must eventually ensue, and that meetings in the suburbs will be raised to a higher tone, both as regards the society and the class of horses they lay themselves out to attract. But, unfortunately, Jockey Club influence extends only to those fixtures devoted to flat racing, while in steeplechasing the Grand National Hunt Committee steps in with an entirely different set of rules, not as yet equal in their constrictive tendency to those promulgated by the elder legislative body. Assimilation has been proposed, and a Grand National Hunt Committee meeting was advertised to undertake this important work, but the same had to be postponed owing to the absence of a quorum to take matters in hand. This is all the more to be lamented, because so much valuable time has been lost; and meanwhile, the steeplechase and hurdle-race season is passing rapidly away, so that a most important discussion must be delayed for almost another year, unless some few energetic spirits can be found to set to work with a will, and to commence the work of legal assimilation forthwith. The growing importance of steeplechasing imperatively demands that it should be fixed on the same footing as the sister sport, and the added money qualification should be the same in all cases, by which means a large number of insignificant "benefits" would go to the wall at once, and expire of sheer inanition. But whatever happens, should Mr. Anderson's bill pass into law, the ground will be cut away from under the feet of those who inveigh with such overwhelming warmth against summary disestablishment, and every meeting, how humble soever, will be put upon its public trial, to show how far things can be carried on with decency and order, and will then have a chance of vindicating itself in the eyes of impartial judges. More than this their promoters could not reasonably expect, and Mr. Anderson's bill clearly errs more in the direction of unexpected leniency than of undue severity.

A ROYAL SLEIGH PARTY IN VIENNA.

THE abrupt departure of summer weather, and sudden plunge into winter ice and snow has been commented upon by many visitors to the great capital of Austria. But a Vienna winter has no lack of novelty and amusements, of which sleighing is one of the most exhilarating and attractive. Our sketch of the Empress of Austria and a royal sleigh party is from the Prater, one of the largest and noblest parks in the world, into which London's three parks with Kensington Gardens to boot might be placed, and yet leave plenty of room outside them.

THE Prince of Wales hunted on Wednesday week with the Cotswold Hounds, the meet being at Five Mile House, on the Cirencester and Gloucester road. This fixture being within easy distance of Cheltenham and Gloucester, there was a very large assemblage. The Prince drove from Cirencester with the Earl and Countess of Shannon, arriving at Five Mile House about noon, and was loudly cheered along the route. The field was the largest ever seen with the Cotswold, and his Royal Highness was very warmly received. The first find was at Calmesden Gorse, and a pretty run took place to ground, near Abington. A second fox was found at Stonehill, and gave a good race to Wiggold, where it was lost. One or two smart gallops were afforded, and, considering the frosty state of the weather and the bad scent, the sport may be considered good. The Prince got back to the Earl of Shannon's about seven o'clock. On the following day, his Royal Highness was present at a special meet of the Vale of White Horse foxhounds, at Eastcott House, near Malmesbury, the residence of Mr. Walter Powell, M.P., who dispensed hospitality on the occasion to all comers. An immense field, numbering nearly 1,000 ladies and gentlemen, assembled, in addition to many thousand spectators. The morning being intensely frosty but little sport was anticipated, however, there being plenty of foxes and good country an excellent day's sport ensued.

AVAILING ourselves of the courtesy of Mrs. Noseda, we visited her gallery, and *inter alia* noticed an exquisite painting of Fantin, who has already acquired considerable reputation in England for his admirable treatment of flowers, two Turners, a study of Reynolds, and a Greuze. We were also shown several portfolios, which we examined with great attention; we found in them a complete collection of the etchings and dry points of Whistler, whose "Studies on the Thames" are proofs of great merit; a set of etchings by Le Gros who, in spite of his unquestionable talent, has the great fault of copying old masters, this has gained him the *soubriquet* in Paris of the "Holbein des Batignolles;" some very charming sketches of the environs of London, by Dr. Evershed, &c., and several of Rajon's etchings, works which give one the idea of being more the result of patience than of art. Amidst the works of such artists as Seymour, Hayden, Wattner, Millett, Lalame, &c., we came to what appeared to us to be the gems of Mrs. Noseda's portfolios, viz., a collection of English portraits by M. Pilotell, amongst which we recognised those of the Countess of Dudley, Lord Beaconsfield, and Mr. Samuel Plimsoll, M.P., as having been in last year's Royal Academy. Admirable as all his portraits are, M. Pilotell seems to have excelled himself—were it possible—with his speaking likenesses of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the Marchioness of Bute, and la Diva Madame Adelina Patti.

"Gives Light in Darkness."

Chappuis' Reflector. 69, Fleet-street.—[ADVT.]

JULES VERNE'S NEW DRAMA—"UN DRAME AU FOND DE LA MER."

THE chief idea in Jules Verne's new three-act sensational and semi-scientific drama—that of placing its principal scenes at the bottom of the sea in the middle of the Atlantic—is decidedly curious and original. The plot is somewhat crude in its conception, but it is wrought out with a considerable degree of dash and vigour. A vessel crossing the Atlantic is discovered to be on fire; amongst the passengers is a young American engineer, named Norton, and a young lady, named Emily—with whom he falls desperately in love,—her father, an English baronet, and her mother. The parents reject Norton's suit. In the awful calamity that ensues, Emily is saved by the heroism of her American admirer. Years are supposed to pass, and when the story is resumed, we are introduced to the Great Eastern, which is leaving the Medway to lay the Atlantic Cable of 1865. On board we once more meet Norton engaged as engineer under the orders of a Frenchman, Henry de Sartène, who is the chief of the expedition and the betrothed of Emily. Under the influence of passionate jealousy Norton picks a quarrel with his superior, which leads to his being put in irons for insubordination. When in mid-ocean a series of mishaps occur, and the cable is suddenly discovered to have parted. This seeming accident is shown to be really the result of malevolence, but as the pressing need of the moment is to repair the mishap as speedily as possible, search for the culprit is adjourned. Sartène resolves to descend to the bed of the ocean to splice the cable, and Norton accompanies him, together with one sailor, Aristide, who is to light their submarine path with an electric lamp, and another named Karl. We see them don their diving dresses, enclose their heads in the iron helmets, and descend the ladders over the ship's side. When the sea has closed over these intrepid adventurers, the great sensation scene of the piece comes—that which figures in our illustration. Sartène and his three companions are a thousand feet below the surface of the Atlantic, and walk about with a weight of thirty atmospheres upon them. The four armour-clad men wander there among groves of marine plants and banks of coral in the midst of huge crabs, octopi, and shoals of gleaming fishes, in their search for the broken cable, until they find the wreck of a vessel, no other than the ill-fated Washington, where, by a strange miracle of preservation, we find, as if they had been embalmed, the bodies of the unfortunate people who had been lost in the catastrophe represented in the first act. Here lie stretched the corpses of the sailors; Emily's father, Sir Reginald, is visible by one of the doors, at his feet is his wife, her features expressing all the agony of despair, clasping a casket containing what was their entire fortune. Karl secures the precious casket, and, on opening it, finds it filled with priceless jewels. While his eyes are feasting on the treasure he is surprised by Sartène. Karl, by a blow of his axe, severs the tube which supplies his commander with air from above, and Sartène is swept away by the current. The sailor Aristide endeavours in vain to reach the assassin, whose features are hidden by his helmet, and the curtain falls on this situation. The last two scenes are taken up with the researches of justice to discover the culprit. Norton, who is known to have been Sartène's rival for the hand of Emily, is suspected. The Great Eastern has come to anchor at Valentia, and he is tried for the murder. The evidence is rapidly culminating against him, when the unexpected arrival of Sartène completely changes the aspect of affairs. In spite of his diving-dress, the commander was able to float to the surface of the sea, where he was picked up by a fishing-boat! He now proclaims the innocence of Norton, to whom he offers the hand of Emily, and Karl is arrested, but he escapes, and throws himself off a cliff into the sea, where he perishes. Such is the glaringly improbable and wildly sensational character of this wonderful drama.

THE COMPTON BENEFIT.

THIS benefit took place on Thursday afternoon last week, and its success was so brilliant and complete as to afford conclusive proof of the gratitude with which the British public regard those who administer effectively to their enjoyment, and of the generous alacrity with which actors assist one another in seasons of adversity. Though the prices of admission were unusually high, the house was crammed from the floor to the roof-tree; and some of the most eminent artists of the day were content to appear in the most insignificant parts in order to lend a greater *éclat* to the entertainment. Mr. F. B. Chatterton, with characteristic liberality, gave the free use of the national theatre, and all the players, whether histrionic or musical, gave their services without fee or reward. The first article of a highly-diversified programme was the council scene from the tragedy of *Othello*, in which Mr. Creswick appeared as the Moor, Miss Ada Cavendish as Desdemona, Mr. Ryder as Iago, Mr. T. Mead as the Duke of Venice, Mr. Chippendale as Brabantio, Mr. Horace Wigan as Ludovico, and Mr. Henry Sinclair as Cassio. The first act of Lord Lytton's comedy of *Money*, which followed, enabled Mr. Edward Compton, son of the *beneficiare*, to make his *début* upon the London stage, in the character of Evelyn, a part which he played with smoothness and spirit. The cast included Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Hare, Mr. Kendal, Mr. Benjamin Webster, Mr. David James, Mr. William Farren, Mrs. Bancroft, Mrs. Kendal, and Miss Ellen Terry. Mr. Bancroft and Mr. C. Collette appeared as footmen. Then came Mr. Maddison Morton's popular farce, *Lend me Five Shillings*, in which Mr. Jefferson as Mr. Golightly made his first appearance in a comic character, acting it with such zest and brilliancy as to win the fervid applause of his audience. Messrs. Howe, Billington, and Thomas Thorne, and Miss M. Oliver and Miss Amy Roselle also performed in the farce, which was preceded with a poetical recitation, *My Uncle*, by Mr. H. Irving. Mr. Phelps, in a scene from *The Man of the World*, presented his celebrated impersonation of Sir Pertinax Macsycophant, supported by Mr. Hermann Vezin as Egerton. The last act of Sheridan's *Critic* was then represented, introducing Mr. Charles Mathews as Puff, Mr. H. J. Byron as Dangle, Mr. John Clayton as Snier, and Mr. Arthur Sketchley as Under Prompter. Messrs. Buckstone, J. L. Toole, G. W. Anson, J. Clarke, E. Righton, E. Terry, W. H. Stephens, W. J. Hill, Mrs. Hermann Vezin, Mrs. A. Mellon, and Miss E. Farren figured in the tragedy. The entertainments concluded with the dramatic cantata, *Trial by Jury*, in which the services of Messrs. George Honey, George Fox, W. H. Cummings, Arthur Cecil, and Madame Pauline Rita were effectively enlisted.

When the curtain had fallen upon *The Critic*, Mr. C. W. Thompson, whose zeal and liberality in every movement designed for the benefit of the dramatic profession deserve the most honourable recognition, came in front, and announced that the moneys which had passed through his hands as hon. treasurer amounted to no less a sum than £3,520. (Loud applause.) This, which included a subscription of £50 from the Baroness Burdett Coutts, was independent of a new year's gift to the value of £250, which had been presented to Mr. Compton from another quarter. Mr. Thompson also mentioned, amid loud applause, that the incidental expenses behind the scenes had been defrayed by the munificence of Lord Londesborough.

Mr. Charles Harcourt, the hon. secretary, read aloud the following letter from Mr. Compton :

"T'oo, Stamford-road, Kensington, Feb. 28, 1877.
"My dear Harcourt,—Though I hope to have another opportunity of expressing my thanks to Mr. Chatterton for the use of his theatre, to yourself

and Mr. Thompson and the rest of my kind friends on the committee, and to all the ladies and gentlemen who have so generously promised to take part in the performances to-morrow, yet I want somebody to thank the public for their deep sympathy and hearty response, without which all your efforts must have proved fruitless. My astonishment at the extraordinary success of the movement is only equalled by my profound gratitude, and I feel bound to intimate my desire that my thanks may be expressed to all concerned. I feel sure that you will arrange in some way that my wishes may be carried out, and that nobody in the house shall be left uncertain as to my grateful feelings and my regret at not being able to express them in person to all who have aided in achieving a result really remarkable and quite unprecedented. With this view I leave the matter in your hands, and remain, my dear Harcourt, very truly yours,

HENRY COMPTON."

This communication was received with the heartiest expression of approval.

The benefit given to Mr. Compton has produced results which entitle it to be regarded as an event of no slight significance in the history of our stage. That an effort of this sort should have yielded a sum of from £5,000 to £6,000 is a fact without precedent in dramatic annals. Fifty years' active service before the footlights might alone entitle an actor to some mark of recognition on the part of his comrades and of gratitude on the part of the public. But Mr. Compton has received more than recognition, and much more than any ordinary expression of goodwill. Probably no such testimony of esteem was ever before offered to an actor, and certainly was never better deserved.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. F. S. (Spring Gardens).—Many thanks for your promise. We shall be very glad to receive the problems referred to in your note.

J. S. W. (Winson-green).—The games in the match between Mr. Blackburne and Herr Steinitz were all published in the "Westminster Papers."

W. M. (Gloucester).—Either Wormald's "Chess Openings" or Cook's "Synopsis of the Openings" would suit you. Both can be obtained through any bookseller.

G. E. A. (Wimbledon).—For evening play, the City of London Club, Mouflet's Hotel, Newgate-street; for afternoon play, the St. George's Club, Palace Chambers, King-street, St. James's. The games enclosed in your letter are below our standard.

H. N. S. (Harrow).—We do not know any teachers of chess; and if we had the knowledge, we should not like to assume the responsibility of recommending them. At your age you should have plenty of time to study the published games of the best players, and they are not inefficient teachers, if the pupil is apt.

G. S. (Aberdeen).—The problem shall be examined, and, if found correct, published.

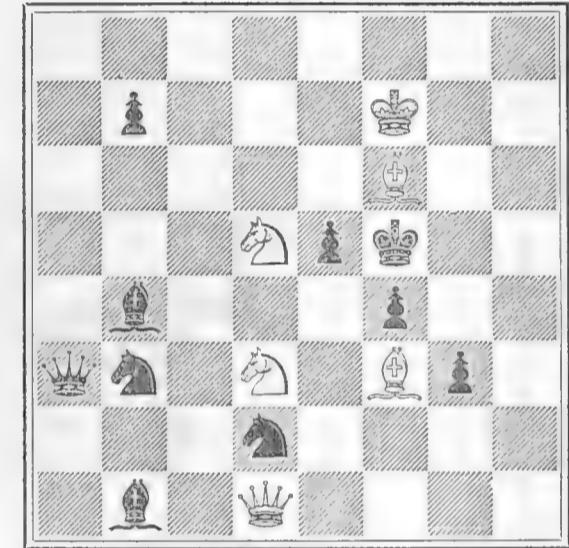
J. B. (Hartford, U. S.).—The slips have been forwarded to your paper, and we have also communicated with you through the post.

J. A. D. (New York).—The analysis is good and very interesting. It shall have due honours.

PROBLEM NO. 135.

By T. F. SMYTHE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

The following interesting game occurred between Messrs. Chamier and Beckrown, in the late tourney, played at the Café de la Régence, Paris.

[SCOTCH GAMBIT.]

WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)
1. P to K 4	P to K 4	16. Kt to Q B 2	Q to K B 3
2. Kt to K B 3	Kt to Q B 3	17. Kt to K 3	P to Q B 3
3. P to Q 4	P takes P	18. K R to Q sq.	Kt to K Kt 3
4. Kt takes P	B to B 4	19. Kt to Kt 4 (d)	B takes Kt
5. B to K 3	Q to B 3	20. B takes B	Kt to K B 5
6. P to Q B 3	Kt Kt to K 2	21. Q to K B sq	P to K R 6 (e)
7. B to K 2	Q to Kt 3 (a)	22. P to K Kt 3	Kt to Q 6
8. B to B 3	P to Q 3	23. Kt to Q Kt 3	Kt takes P
9. Kt to K 2 (b)	Kt to K 4	24. B to Q 7 (ch)	K to B 3
10. Q to K 2	P to Q R 3	25. Kt to Q B 5	Kt takes R
11. Castles (K R)	P to K R 4	26. Q takes Kt	R to Q sq
12. B to K B 4	B to Q 2	27. Q to Kt 4	Q to K 2
13. P to Q R 4	B to Q R 2	28. R to Q sq	B takes Kt (ch)
14. P to Q Kt 4	P to K R 5	29. P takes B	Q takes P (ch)
15. B takes Kt (c)	P takes B		and White resigned (f).

(a) The old move 7, B takes Kt seems preferable to this.

(b) Kt to Kt 5 would have been more to the purpose.

(c) *La Stratégie*, from which excellent serial the above game is extracted, expresses a preference for the following line of play:

WHITE.	BLACK.
15. P to Q Kt 5'	P to Q R 4 (best)
16. Kt to Q B 4	Kt takes Kt

17. Q takes Kt with a fine game.

(d) White should undoubtedly have played here Q Kt to Q B 4 as suggested by M. C. Morel, in the following variation, e. g.

19. Q Kt to Q B 4	Kt to K B 5
20. Q to K B sq	Castles Q R (best)

21. P to Q Kt 5 with an irresistible attack.

(e) The winning move.

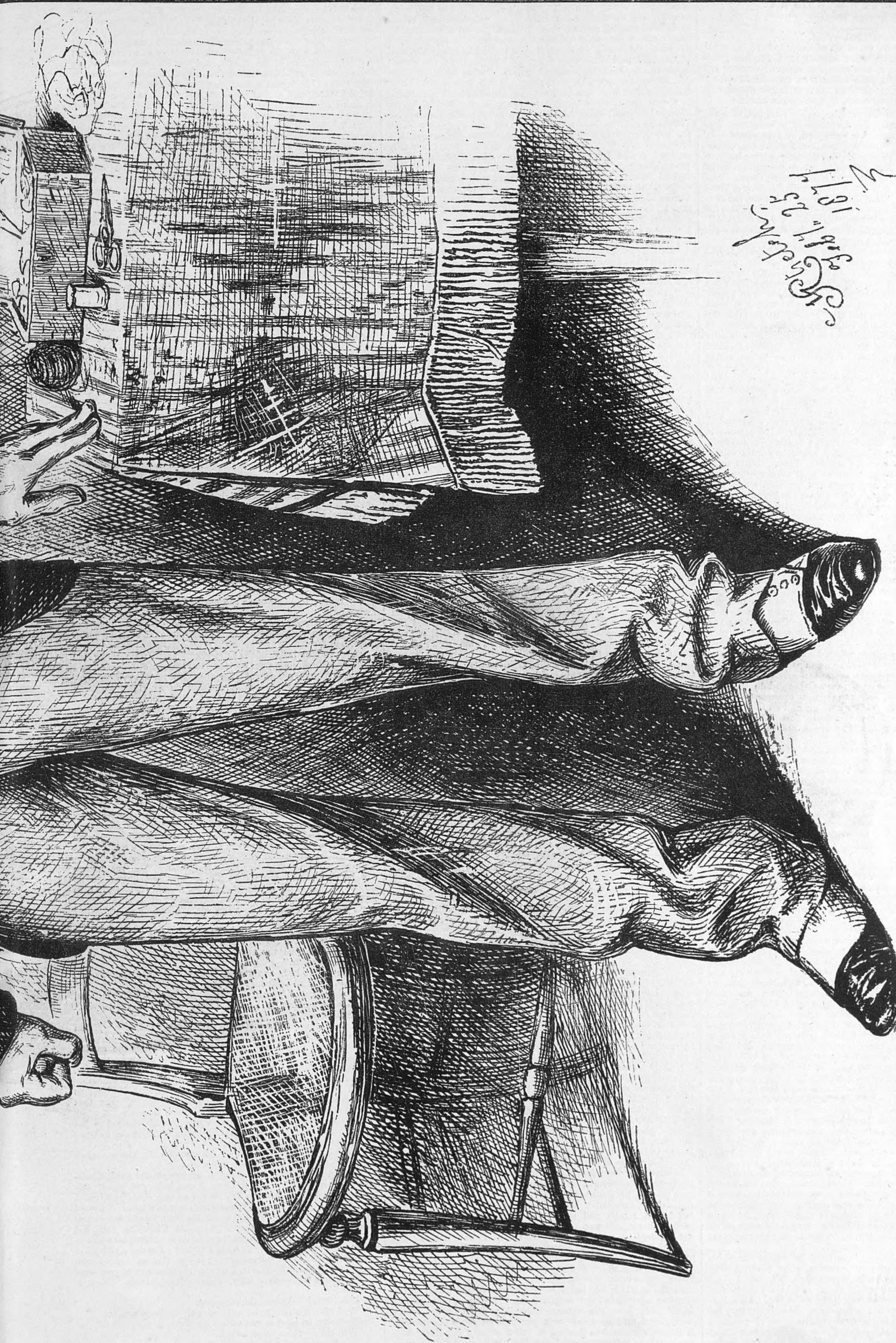
(f) If White plays 30. K to R sq, Black's answer is 30. Q to B 7 (ch), and if 30. K to B sq, then follows:—

30. K to R 3	R takes R (ch)
31. B to K B 5	R to Q 3 winning.

32. Q takes R

THE Granville special express on Friday, the 2nd March, accomplished the journey from London to Ramsgate in one hour and three quarters, the quickest journey ever made to Ramsgate. FROM Nuneaton we hear that upwards of 1000 persons from all parts assembled at Grendon, near Atherstone, on Saturday, to witness a foot race for £25 a side between William Roberts, of Manchester, and Benjamin Palfreyman, of Atherstone. Roberts was left at the post without running the ground at all, and Palfreyman, amidst great excitement, was declared the winner. The former alleges as his reason for not running that the pistol was fired before he was ready.





MR. J. MACLEAN AS "FRANK BRISTOW" IN "THE PROMPTER'S BOX."

"I am an old man now, but a few short years ago if any man had dared to say what you have said to-day, Sir Michael Gendenning I would have horsewhipped him for his insolence like the veriest cur."

HEATHERTHORP.
A SPORTING STORY.
BY BYRON WEBBER.

CHAPTER VIII.

CONTAINS NOTES OF THE VISIT TO SCARBOROUGH; RENEWS CHEERFUL INTERCOURSE WITH SOME EARLY FRIENDS; ENDEAVOURS TO DEPICT A REMARKABLE MARKET-DINNER AT THE SURSINGLE ARMS; AND DESCRIBES THE DRAWING-UP OF ARTICLES FOR THE RETURN MATCH BETWEEN GREEK AND GREEK—OTHERWISE DOCTOR AND IRONMASTER.

FAITHFUL to the spirit of her promise, Sylvia returned with the Wilsons to Heatherthorp. In the course of a whispered conversation with Kate, as they were swiftly borne from Scarbro' by the evening express, she remarked that, "she dared say, certain male members of the Vandervelde family-circle were pining to shadows in despair at her prolonged absence—transcendental darlings! But she had hardened her heart against them. She would remain by Kate's side until the comedy 'Doctor or Ironmaster' came to an end. Had she not vowed to witness the confusion of parental despotism, the reward of chivalric love, and the subjugation of overweening ironmastery? She had, and would!" Kate smiled at Sylvia's whimsical banter; for she well knew the warm heart and stedfast will it concealed.

Thus far events had occurred precisely as Miss Vandervelde had predicted, and now the Squire himself was actually coming round! The return home did it—in this wise: firstly, there was his darling—still, and ever to be his darling—pervading The Place with her sunshiny presence, and peopling its echoes with a voice whose every delicate note sounded like home; secondly, there were his flocks, and his herds, and his feathered tribes (Timothy Wilson, Esq., was a dreadfully enthusiastic amateur farmer) to welcome him in their peculiar fashion; and, thirdly, there was the enchanting sense of having bidden adieu to Scarbro'! And he had further cause for comfort. It would have by no means harmonized with his newly-developed insensibility to what he was pleased to designate "girls' romantic rubbish," to have pleaded guilty "to the soft impeachment," but Kate's behaviour at Scarbro' had afforded him much gratification. The place had agreed with Kate, and Kate with it marvellously. This was what Mr. Wilson saw, and it was fortunate for his peace of mind he saw no more. To tell the truth, our heroine was not exactly a free agent. Sylvia Vandervelde's volition—as the messieurs say—took the place of hers, and unresistingly the softer-minded maiden did just as she was bidden. Enjoined "to enjoy herself," Kate floated lightly down the pleasant stream of Scarbro' society as though unsympathetic papas and banished lovers had never disturbed her happiness. Tears from the bitter spring of hope deferred were strangers to her eyes. "It was at her peril she ever wept," Sylvia said; "she was to keep her tears for the wedding"—and she kept them. When the old gentleman beheld this, he hugged to himself the conviction that she had forgotten our friend the Doctor for good and all.

Nevertheless, while in the matter of his daughter's attachment it was from the beginning three to one against him and his hobby, he had become, what the betting men would term, a worse favourite as soon as ever the party reached Scarbro'. There, besides the meek, but none the less mighty, opposition of that one fair daughter whom he loved passing well; the unresting artfulness of that one fair daughter's clever friend Sylvia Vandervelde; the image of the Doctor—haloed by the tender pencil of Absence into the counterfeit presentment of a hero of romance;—the Squire had to contend against the influence of the Doctor's letters! Not that our hero violated so much as the fringe of that dreadful interdiction of epistolary correspondence. But he did write to Miss Vandervelde, and if she was pleased to pass the letters over to Miss Wilson, before so much as opening them herself, where was the harm? At Scarbro', giving him the Doctor's absence in (to again steal a phrase from Tattersall's), it was rather over three to one against the wrong-headed old gentleman's chance!

However, the Squire was home again, and but for one thing he would have felt supremely happy. He missed the Doctor. His back stiffened, his chin insensibly rose in the air, his lips closed with a drooping tendency at the corners when he chanced to meet his former favourite; but—he missed the Doctor. And what greatly provoked the old gentleman was the impossibility of his keeping clear of the Doctor's influence. Everywhere he heard our hero spoken of, and always in the most cordial manner, especially by the common folk, by whom it was evident he was greatly beloved. "But there! what business had any Doctor Sutton with his daughter?"

Matthew Crisp (thou shalt not be dissociated from thy master, Mat) in his way, erratic though it was, likewise gained popularity. Yet it was not invariably given to the somewhat cynical Crisp to "win his way with extreme gentleness through all the outworks of suspicious pride!" The old fellow occasionally got into hot water. Until his advent the court of appeal for trying sporting questions had consisted of two members, Daniel Essom and John Golightly; Martin Sillery being occasionally permitted, on suffrage, to assist at the court's deliberations when these proved more than usually perplexing. But since Doctor Sutton came to the town, and especially since the match between Heatherthorp and Shipley, Crisp's arrogance—Essom affirmed—had become unbearable. As Golightly kept his tongue quiet, one may suppose that he entertained slightly different idea of his crony's peculiarities; and as Martin Sillery talked anyhow (being a sagacious British landlord, desirous of maintaining amicable relations with every customer), Crisp's influence as a sporting oracle widened, Essom's proportionately diminished, and there arose a feud betwixt the pair as deadly as that of the Montagues and Capulets. Many stormy evenings at the Sursingle, resulted from this queer rivalry, and divers encounters of a lively description elsewhere, even at Mr. Daniel Essom's shop, for Mat feared not to beard the barber in his own den, to the considerable rapture of the privileged frequenters of that politico-sporting sanctum. It came to pass at length that Daniel Essom and Matthew Crisp fought tooth and nail whenever they met—snarled over every sporting subject that was brought to the surface by "the fine fluent motion" of their busy tongues. The last ounce which broke the not-over-broad back of Crisp's forbearance was a remark of Essom's, which conveyed an ill-natured doubt of the Doctor's prowess as a cricketer. From that moment the breach became unbridgeable. Now Nathan Barjona, the Quaker, chanced at odd times to witness the wordy warfare, and because he sympathised with Essom on the subject of church-rates, he (while piously reprobating the subject in dispute) invariably managed to side with Essom, and to sting Mat to the quick with his venomous comments. Crisp vowed to be avenged.

"Cross-grained old humbug!" muttered he, as he turned his back on Essom's emporium one evening, after a remarkably energetic set-to. "Nasty, vinegar-mouthed, she-man! All Quakers are she-men, every yan o' them. I wish I had my way wi' them, that's all. I'd mak' em stand on a leg. Flayed of eightin' themselves, except in a police-court about ratiates they ha' just as much reight tee pääy as anybody else, they're nobbut a nuisance tit country. What for didn't they all emigrate wi' that Penn seller i' Charles's time?" And feeling all the better for his very North Riding soliloquy (the depth of his feeling could generally be measured by the breadth of his phraseology), he took

a few steps in silence. Presently he resumed. "And that chap, Essom! Where did he get his larnin' frae I sud like tee knaw? Nowt comes wrang tiv him." (Crisp's vernacular was becoming broader and broader every moment.) "Cricket and racin', fishin' and huntin', wrastlin' and—politics! 'm—politics. An' he thinks Mr. Arthur plays a fairish bat, does he? Wonderful kind o' him to think sae. Wonderful kind! Thinks though he wad a'most back that Woodridge feller agin him, ivethin' else equal: WAD HE?" And Crisp smiled grimly. "Has hard, tee, that Mr. Arthur can ride a bit on the flat. Mebby he can, Mr. Daniel Essom, a little bit. Has hard tee, that Mr. Reginald Woodridge is a rare performer it pigskin. Mebby he is; mebby he is; though he doesn't strike me like a chap wi' a Grand National cut about him. Then, Essom wonders if they canna' get up a match for 'em—eh, Crisp? says he; a return you know, Crisp, says he—looking at me. Not the least objection, says I. What new folly is this? puts in Mr. Quaker; I earnestly trust thy master is not about to engage in the cruel sport of horse-racing. Can't say, says I: because I generally allow my master to manage his own affairs; but some folks has time for everybody else's business besides their own. Keep thy temper, says Barjona. So I shall, says I; but if I had some folk's temper, I'd get shot of it at yance.—Nasty, crabbed, owd beast! And as for Essom—"

"Hullo!"

"What is the row?"

"Devil a row at all, that I know of, Mat, my boy; worse luck. The company I've been kapin' isn't favourable to rows; Quakers nivir foight—except on paper. And in that koind of foightin' they've not many aquils—accardin' to moi exprience, Matthew Crisp."

"Ah! it's Ryan, I see," observed Crisp, peering curiously into the gnarled face of the horsey-looking individual he had run against. "What keeps you hangin' about here? I thought you had gone lang syne."

"Faith, I almost thought so myself—till I was stopped."

"Stopped!"

"Nothin' less. P'raps it's my plasin' manners, or the tindheress of my heart, or bekase I'm ginerally mouldy for a dhrink, but somehow I'm always gettin' divarted out o' my natural coarse."

Crisp vouchsafed no answer; an involuntary gasp at the phrase "tindheress of my heart" alone betraying his notice of the horse-dealer's rhodomontade. Mr. Ryan, however, was dealing with an attractive subject—himself—and felt constrained to treat it worthily.

"I mint to be on my way south by this," continued he, in a wheedling tone, "but the Quaker persuaded me to stop."

"Him!" ejaculated Crisp, surprised out of his taciturnity.

"Devil a wan else," remarked Ryan. "Somehow ridin' doesn't come aisy to him, Mat; an thin he's changed his gardener into a groom; and he wanted a wrinkle or two for himself, and a wrinkle or two for his gardener: faith if they were all wrinkles, like my gran'mother's face, it's not much they'd be makin' out in ridin' and groomin'—and my compassion was excoited, ye see, Mat, and so I stopped."

"Gammon!"

"Sure, and what was it you said, Matthew darlin'?"

"I said gammon, Ryan—gammon. Happen ye know what it means?"

"And is it for the ould acquaintance ye are, Mat, to doubt my generosity—to a customer? Any way, Misther Barjona has thritten me handsomely, and why wouldn't I thrath him handsomely too? Is it the likes o' the bit of dinner and the glass o' port afterwards, though moind you, if anything in the world can bate a Quaker's notions of atin', it's his idays of dhrinkin', and the dhrops o' the crater in the evenin', that's goin' to weigh wid me at all? Isn't it the kindness?"

"Look here, Ryan," said Crisp, with severity; "if anything's took place sin' ye cam' here to mak' ye think me the biggest flat you ever met—talk on: if not bottle up your blarney for Barnet fair. You are not keepin' your animals here eatin' their heads off for nowt."

"An' is it for you, Mat, that's lived all your life wid them, to call horses animals? You might just as well call them pigs! Nivir fear about them atin' their heads off, as long as there's daent nibblin' in Barjona's meadows."

"Oh!" breathed Crisp.

"And if you must know, I'm just stoppin' here for a quiet dale. I've a nate pair of hunters that'll suit Sir Harry Sursingle to a hair, and I want to see him to-morrow—market day."

"At Sillery's ordinary?"

"Yes."

"Good-night, Ryan," said Crisp, making a move; and then suddenly seeming to recollect himself, he remarked: "By-the-by, supposin' you had to handicap that mare you sold Mr. Woodridge the other day, and Kelpie, for two miles over a fair steeple-chase country—none of your stone walls, recollect—how would you put 'em together? They're the same age, you know, and can both stand up."

"It depnds."

"On what?"

"Who's your gammonin' now, my boy? Bless your swate innocent self, Mat! was it Bilsdale you were foaled in, or the county Kildare?"

Crisp disdained to reply.

"How would I put them together, is it? Faith, just to suit meself!"

"Why, you copin', swindlin' vagabone! do you think we have nothing but ramping in our part of the country? There's a match between these pair—owners up—talked about, and, let me tell you, it will be on the square. Now can you say how you'd handicap them?"

"Mat, there's nothing in it. If they met at even weights, I'd take a shade of odds either way. I nivir lay odds; but if I did it 'ud not be on your masther's mount."

"Thank ye; that's all I wanted to know. Good night."

"Good-night."

Before Doctor Sutton retired to rest he was in possession of the information Crisp had been at the pains to procure, namely, that Kelpie and Mr. Reginald Woodridge's new purchase were, in the opinion of the late possessor, as near a match as it was possible for two horses to be. "Not a pin to choose between them. Jockeyship would just turn the scale." A good many thoughts, unremotely associated with Woodridge, Kate Wilson, Kate's father, and a sportsman's honourable revenge, scampered through the brain of the Doctor as he turned in "to sleep on it."

If the Chronicler has hitherto omitted to state that Heatherthorp sends a gentleman to represent its interests—whatever they may be—to the Commons House of Parliament, he hastens to remedy that omission. The borough, as a borough, obeyed the dictates of reason and the reigning property-owner, like the patriotic borough it was. Fortunately for the electors, they were not required to exercise what Mr. Daniel Essom termed "the right of private judgment" in the matter. Sir Harry Sursingle took care of that. Each election, however it might begin, ended in a walk over; and with a complaisance that did him credit, Sir Harry (in whose interest the candidate sported silk) kindly officiated as starter and judge, having previously sent a trustworthy agent to superintend the weighing out. Essom denounced the whole affair as a "monstrous farce;" but then Essom was a radical, and radicals always were perverse, impracticable people. A general election was pending at this time, and Sir Harry Sursingle, it was expected, would give the candidate a breathing at Sillery's ordinary. This was the occasion Ryan had meditated turning to account, with a view to "a deal" with the Baronet.

A new man was coming forward to ornament the borough, a nephew of Sir Harry's, and the free and independent were expected to assemble in force at Martin Sillery's hospitable board, to allow their political pulses to be felt in the accustomed manner. Everybody was there; not necessarily to smile upon the sucking senator's first plunge into public life, but because everybody was expected. If Sir Harry Sursingle had been a facetious and eccentric member of the P. R., and this his annual benefit, his friends could not have rallied round him more enthusiastically than they did. It was by no means the new member that was to be who constituted the attraction. He indeed was such a poor creature, it was a positive charity to send him to Parliament, where he might hawk-hawk with other poor creatures as vapid as himself. No; it was the correct thing for Heatherthorp to rally round Sir Harry on such occasions, and Heatherthorp rallied. The social duties which devolved upon the guests were simple. Every ordinary feeder was required to dine heartily, drink freely, listen patiently, and retire without paying. Sometimes the diners above "the pale spectrum of the salt" broke out into set speeches; but to-day Sir Harry was not certain whether the colt whosat on his right had the heart to face a crowd yet, and therefore he deemed it prudent to say little or nothing about politics.

Among the group at the head of the board "might be noticed" (as the local journal observed on the succeeding Saturday) "Timothy Wilson, Esq., J. P., of The Place; Dr. Sutton, and Reginald Woodridge, Esq., of Shipley." The local journal forgot to include Mr. Essom and Mr. Patrick Ryan in its list of the company, but they were present nevertheless—Essom on the look-out for subscriptions to the approaching race-meeting, and Ryan burning for a profitable deal.

Buz, buz, up and down the table moved the conversation, which after the few political utterances from the founder of the feast, was tacitly allowed to mingle in Babel fashion, "Not a bit like his uncle, is he? what will he ride; ten stun' seven?"—"Yes, t' iron trade's getting awful dull i' Shipley; and what I mean to say is, we've over much iron i' Cleveland, and t' coal—" "Plenty of birds, though not much happen' for them tee year, but as I was remarkin' about sawing broadcast, which Sir Harry—" "I eased him in his work, and now the curb's got callous—" "We have good entries for the Welter and Wimbley Plate, and—" "I tell you it's the bishops that play the deuce with all reform; now just glance for a moment at—"

"Mr. Essom," pompously observed the Baronet, addressing the barber point-blank, and thereby producing a lull in the talk, the company duly pausing to listen, "are the subscriptions to this year's meeting, equal to those of last?"

"Scarcely, Sir Harry, but we expect a capital day's sport nevertheless."

"Ha—there's a—little fear of that, I think," replied the Baronet; of course you reckon upon my hundred as usual?"

"Well, I must confess we do make so bold."

"Quite right: the cheque is at your service whenever you require funds to go on with, you know."

A murmur of approbation, mingled with one or two emphatic ejaculations of hear! hear! greeted the Baronet's announcement.

"And, haw," observed the Baronet's nephew, delighted at the opportunity of expressing himself on a subject he knew something about, "like to encourage old English sports and—haw—all that sort of thing; so—haw—you can put my name down for another hundred."

Sir Harry's approving "bravo!" led an enthusiastic burst of applause. Previous M.P.s for Heatherthorp had never given more than fifty.

"Speaking on behalf of the Committee," said Essom, rising and unconsciously assuming the controversial manner of his youth and the Fleet Street Forum, "allow me to thank Sir Harry Sursingle, and the I may say honourable member on his right, for their munificence; and not only have the Committee, but the town—nay, the whole countryside—cause for congratulation at the possession of such noble sportsmen as the Chairman and the honourable member on his right. (Hear, hear! and applause.) Should their example be followed, as I trust it may, we shall then be able to carry out a long-cherished plan, and make the meeting on the moor last a couple of days. (Loud cheers.) And while I am on my legs, perhaps Sir Harry Sursingle will permit me to ask two gentlemen who are present for their assistance?"

("Most certainly, Essom," said the Baronet.)

"Thank you, Sir Harry. The gentlemen I mean are Doctor Sutton and Mr. Woodridge. (Sensation—the rivalry of the pair was well known to the company.) They are rare sportsmen (cheers), and—to make a long story short—they are known to be as accomplished in the saddle as they are with the willow. As they are known to be old antagonists—no offence is meant, gentlemen, we have not forgotten the cricket-match, you see (cheers and laughter)—and more than all, as they are known to be owners of nags of the right sort, perhaps, Sir Harry, you will help myself and Committee to put them together." (Cheers.)

"By all means, Essom; by all means. What say you, Doctor? and you, Mr. Woodridge?"

"I have no response to make to such an unwarrantable proposal. I protest I am surprised Mr. Essom has not had the decency to mention the thing to me before proclaiming it in this public manner."

"Essom's too keen a sportsman for that," observed the Baronet, laughing. "And what says Mr. Woodridge?"

Woodridge, who "fancied himself" and his new purchase, and was besides burning for another cut at the Doctor, replied with deliberation—

"I place myself and my mare in your hands, Sir Harry. If you can make a match, by all means do; I am ready."

This plucky speech augmented the interest which the excited company already felt in the proposed match, and elicited a running commentary, the remarks, "That's Yorkshire!" "Come, Doctor, d'ent show t' white feather," rising distinctly above the hubub.

The Doctor twirled his glass in gloomy silence. He had, as euphemistic sportsmen would say "got the needle," and that remark about the feather drove the instrument home.

"But supposing Doctor Sutton were to give his consent to the match," said the Baronet, "what do we know about the horses? How are we to put them together?"

"I think, Sir Harry, I can—" commenced Mr. Essom; when Ryan, who sat next him, interposed.

"Allow me, Misther Essom, an' if his honour the noble Chairman'll likewise allow me, I think I can help you out of this bother. Docthor Sutton knows me for several years past, and I have the honour of Misther Woodridge's acquaintance. I owned both nags; and who would know better than myself how to put them together? If his honour the noble Chairman likes, I'll make the match, either for wan, two, or three moiles, owners up, I'll put the weight an' em, an' whin I done it—I'm not a rich man, gentlemen, but for a horse dealer, I hope I'm an honest wan (laughter), an' whin I done it, I repate, I'll take any o' yeas sixty to fifty wance, and wance only, about either o' them. Now, is that fair?"

"It is! it is!" shouted the company.

"Will Mr. Woodridge be satisfied with my handicapping?"

"Perfectly, so long as you satisfy Sir Harry of its justice."

"Will the Docthor agree to it?"

"Yes," exclaimed Sutton, with energy.

"Then it's a match!"

(To be continued.)

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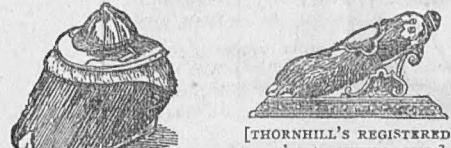
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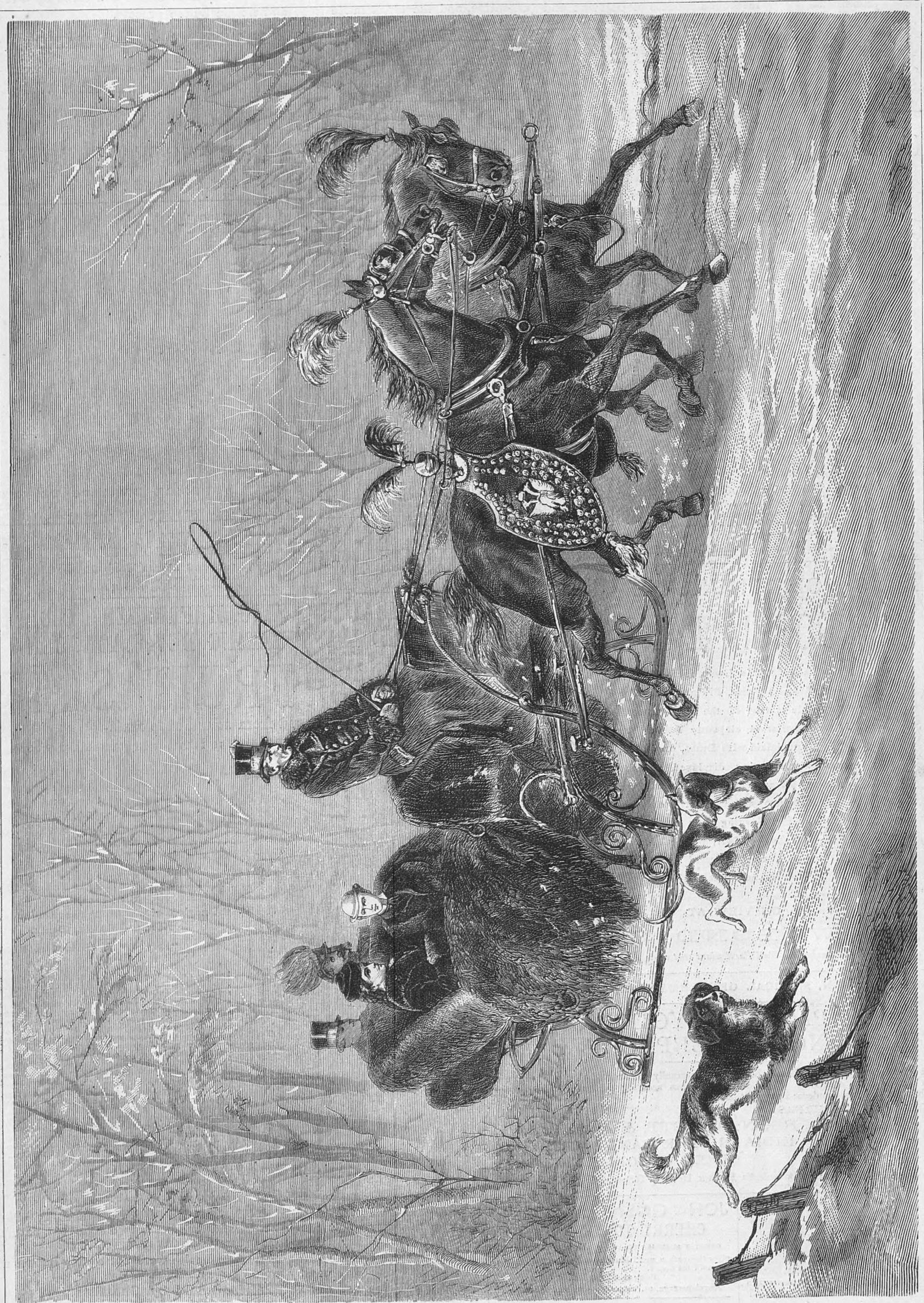
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